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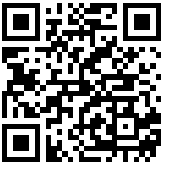

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HILL (2nd Div.). LEITH (5th Div.). PICTON (3rd Div.) LIGHTBURNE. SPENCER (1st Div.). PACK. COLEMAN. Porta da Sulla. Monumento. Windmill. CRAUFURD (Light Div.). Bull's guns. COLE (4th Div.).

Regnier's attack.

BUSSACO RIDGE.

Moura village.

Marchand's attack.

Funnel ravine.

New road.
Old road.

Sula village.

Loison's attack.

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1911

Regimental Annual

THE SHERWOOD FORESTERS

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND DERBYSHIRE REGIMENT

EDITED BY

COLONEL H. C. WYLLY, C.B.

"To set the Cause above Renown,"
"To love the Game beyond the Prize."

HENRY NEWBOLT.

LONDON
SWAN SONNENSCHEIN & CO., LIMITED
25 HIGH STREET, BLOOMSBURY
1911

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EDITORIAL

THE Management of the "Regimental Annual" greatly regret that, owing to the expense of reproduction and the limited amount of capital available, it is impossible *this year* to use as a coloured frontispiece a copy of the late Major-General Crealock's picture of "The 95th Regiment Landing in India"—now in the Officers' Mess, 2nd Battalion—and which had been very kindly prepared for us by Sergeant T. M. Cuckson. We shall hope, should funds permit, to include this in next year's "Annual."

For the panorama of the Ridge of Busaco we have to thank Lt.-Col. Chambers, who has most kindly permitted us to use the plate from his book, just published, dealing in great detail with the events of the battle.

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REGIMENTAL ANNUAL

I

BUSACO

THE battle of Busaco was fought on September 27th, 1810, and during the past year its centenary anniversary has been celebrated on the field. This must be our excuse for making it the subject of the article on the Regimental Honours this year, and in departing from regular chronological order in doing so. The story of Roleia was told in last year's "Annual," and the subject for this year should naturally have been Vimiera ; but it seemed a fitting time to take Busaco, where the Regiment gained undying glory, and shared in the hardest of the desperate fighting of that memorable day.

Towards the end of 1809, Wellington, believing that the French would probably invade Portugal by the northern route from Salamanca past Ciudad Rodrigo, made his headquarters at Viseu and disposed his army in the valley of the Mondego, leaving Hill with 10,000 British and Portuguese troops in the neighbourhood of Abrantes, to succour Elvas and Badajoz, if necessary, and cover the approaches to Lisbon by the right bank of the Tagus.

On June 1st, 1810, Massena advanced, crossed the Agueda, and on the 25th commenced the attack on Ciudad Rodrigo, which no favourable opportunity occurred of relieving. On July 24th General Craufurd, commanding the British outposts on the Coa, was compelled to fall back, after narrowly escaping disaster.

Wellington, expecting that Almeida, which Ney was preparing to invest, would make a vigorous defence, and thus enable him to delay the enemy for a considerable period,

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brought up the Portuguese troops to Celerico, Melho, and Trancoso; while the British troops occupied Pinhel, Freixadas, and Guarda. Unfortunately, a fearful explosion on August 26th in the town destroyed a great part of the defences and compelled the capitulation of the place on the following day.

Wellington's plans being somewhat upset by this catastrophe, he was compelled to withdraw his army further into Portugal; but no corresponding advance was made by Massena until September 6th.

On September 15th the British were driven out of Guarda, and Regnier's Corps, advancing into the valley of the Mondego, effected a junction with Ney.

Wellington, presuming that Massena would advance on Coimbra by the Chamusca-Ponte Murcella road, had prepared a defensive position on the Alva; but Massena selected to advance by Viseu and Mortagoa. Wellington consequently sent orders to Hill and Leith to join him, and made arrangements to stop Massena's advance on the Busaco ridge.

On September 24th, after a skirmish in front of Mortagoa, the Light Division were compelled to retire on Busaco; and Hill, who had crossed the Mondego, arrived on the ridge on the 26th, thus completing the concentration.

The position selected by Wellington was one of great natural strength; the ridge, extending for about eleven miles, was highest in the centre, and commanded the four roads leading out of the valley on the north bank of the Mondego. The ridge sloped steeply towards the enemy, rendering all their movements plainly discernible; while Wellington, owing to the conformation of the ground, was enabled to conceal the bulk of his troops until they were required.

The two principal roads crossing the ridge were the road from S. Antonio de Cantaro, on what we might call the right centre; and the road from Moira and Sulla, which led past the wall of the Convent of Busaco, where Wellington made his head-quarters, somewhat to the left centre. On the extreme right of the position was the junction of the roads from Gondolem and Carvallhos; and on the extreme left a road running parallel with the Moira-Sulla road.

The position could be turned by the Mortagoa-Boialva road, which Wellington ordered Colonel Trant, with the Portuguese

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Militia, to protect. Fortunately, this road was not discovered by Massena till after the battle.

The Allied Army was organised as follows :—

1st Division.—Lieutenant-General Sir B. Spencer.

1st Brigade. Pakenham.—1st Batt. 7th Foot and 79th Foot.

2nd Brigade. Cameron.—1st Batt. 24th Foot, 2nd Batt. 42nd Foot, 1st Batt. 61st Foot, 1 Company 5th Batt. 60th Rifles.

3rd Brigade. Stopford.—1st Batt. Coldstream Guards, 1st Batt. Scots Fusilier Guards, 1 Company 5th Batt. 60th Rifles.

2nd Division.—General Hill.

1st Brigade. Duckworth.—1st Batt. 3rd Foot, 2nd Batt. 31st Foot, 2nd Batt. 48th Foot, 2nd Batt. 66th Foot, 1 Company 5th Batt. 60th Rifles.

2nd Brigade. Inglis.—29th Foot, 1st Batt. 48th Foot, 1st Batt. 57th Foot, 1 Company 5th Batt. 60th Rifles.

3rd Brigade. Wilson.—2nd Batt. 28th Foot, 2nd Batt. 34th Foot, 2nd Batt. 39th Foot, 1 Company 5th Batt. 60th Rifles.

Attached to General Hill's division was the Portuguese division under Major-General Hamilton, consisting of two brigades of four battalions each, under Colonel Archibald Campbell and Brigadier-General Fonseca respectively.

3rd Division (The Fighting Division).—Major-General Picton.

1st Brigade. Lightburne.—2nd Batt. 5th Foot, 2nd Batt. 83rd Foot, 3 Companies 5th Batt. 60th Rifles.

2nd Brigade. Mackinnon.—1st Batt. 45th Foot, 1st Batt. 74th Foot, 1st Batt. 88th Foot.

Portuguese Brigade. Harvey.—3 Battalions.

4th Division.—General Cole.

1st Brigade. Campbell.—2nd Batt. 7th Foot, 1st Batt. 11th Foot, 2nd Batt. 53rd Foot, 1 Company 5th Batt. 60th Rifles.

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2nd Brigade. Kemmis.—1st Batt. 27th Foot, 1st Batt. 40th Foot, 97th Foot, 1 Company 5th Batt. 60th Rifles.

Portuguese Brigade. Collins.—4 Battalions.

5th Division.—Major-General Leith.

1st Brigade. Barnes.—3rd Batt. 1st Foot, 1st Batt. 9th Foot, 2nd Batt. 38th Foot.

Portuguese Brigade.—9 Battalions.

The Light Division.—General Craufurd.

1st Brigade. Beckwith.—1st Batt. 43rd Foot, 4 Companies 95th Rifles, 3rd Caçadores.

2nd Brigade. Barclay.—1st Batt. 52nd Foot, 4 Companies 95th Rifles, 1st Caçadores.

6th Independent Portuguese Brigade. Coleman.—5 Battalions.

There were also the King's German Legion, under Major-General Lowe, consisting of 4 Battalions.

The 5th Independent Portuguese Brigade, under Brigadier-General A. Campbell, of 5 Battalions.

Brigadier-General Pack's Portuguese Brigade of 5 Battalions.

In all, about 52,000 men ; against whom Massena opposed about 62,000 men.

On the extreme right of Wellington's army stood Hill's Division, which was not engaged with the enemy during the battle, with Leith's Division on his left. Picton's Division defended the S. Antonio pass, more than a mile on Leith's left, with two Portuguese brigades in the interval. Lightburne's Brigade was detached from Picton and posted much further to the left. The 1st Division prolonged the line on Lightburne's left, their left resting on the Convent wall, with Pack's Portuguese Brigade on their left. The Light Division came next, occupying a ridge whose front was steep and covered with low scrub and large boulders ; in rear of the Light Division the 6th Brigade of Portuguese was posted near the Convent wall, with the German Legion on the left rear of the Light Division. On the left of the Light Division came the 5th Brigade of Portuguese, with Cole's Division on the left flank of the line.

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The two battalions of the 8th Portuguese, which were a part of Leith's Division, were posted nearly a mile away from his left in rear of the hill commanding the S. Antonio road, and during the action they appear to have come under the command of General Picton.

During the night of the 26th Picton sent the 88th Regiment to an intermediate position between the top of the S. Antonio road and Lightburne's Brigade, as he considered the interval too great ; and early in the morning of the 27th he sent four companies of the 45th, under Major Gwynne, to reinforce them.

Massena's plan of attack was to launch Regnier's Corps, which had bivouacked about the village of S. Antonio de Cantaro, against the hill where it was crossed by the S.Antonio road, and which he believed to be the Allied right ; while Ney's Corps moved against the left centre near the village of Sulla. Junot's Corps was held in reserve.

In the mist which hung in the valley at dawn on the 27th the enemy's columns assembled for the attack, and advanced against the position held by Picton's Division in two columns. The portion of the column which advanced along the S. Antonio road was easily held by the 74th and 21st Portuguese ; and Picton, seeing this and hearing heavy firing on his left, rode off in that direction, giving orders to Colonel Meade, with the remaining five companies of the 45th and the 8th Portuguese, to follow at once.

Meanwhile Merle's Division, which had advanced against the portion of the position held by the 88th and the four companies of the 45th under Major Gwynne, had gained the crest of the hill, and, driving in the light companies of the 74th, 88th, and 45th, had established their Tirailleurs among the rocks on the summit. Picton arriving at this moment, himself rallied the light companies, and directed Major Smyth, of the 45th, to lead them again against the position the French Tirailleurs had gained. Placing himself at the head of the three companies, Major Smyth gallantly charged the enemy, drove them out, and regained the position, but at the cost of his own life, for he was killed in the moment of victory. For some considerable time the light companies had a struggle to hold the position they had regained, the French returning to the attack with vigour, the fighting being for

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some time hand to hand, but the brave defenders were never again dislodged.

Meantime the weight of Merle's attack was falling on the 45th and 88th. The French column in its advance had been somewhat turned to the left by the fire of two guns which were posted between the 88th and Lightburne's Brigade, and of four companies, which were on the right of and rather to the front of the 88th. Engaged with ten times their numbers, Major Gwynne's little band gallantly held their ground; Major Gwynne was seriously wounded, and the command of the little party fell to Captain Lightfoot. The position was critical; but Colonel Wallace, commanding the 88th, was quick in coming to the rescue. Wheeling up two companies to clear the rocks on his left held by the French sharpshooters, he pressed on with the remainder against the main body of the enemy; and Birmingham's battalion of the 8th Portuguese coming up at the same time on the enemy's flank, the three regiments charged the French and drove them headlong down the hill-side to the bottom of the valley; and Merle's attack was beaten and destroyed.

There has always been considerable doubt as to what became of the remaining five companies of the 45th under Colonel Meade. In no history has any mention been made of their position or movements; as they had been ordered by Picton to move to the left with the 8th Portuguese, one had always thought it was justifiable to suppose that they took part in the charge with the rest. Some light is, however, thrown on the matter by a letter dated 1st October, 1810, from Captain Lightfoot, which was published in the November number of the *Old Stubborns*, and in which he says: "I had scarce withdrawn my four companies"—this would be after the charge—"when a fresh column was seen ascending the hill by another ravine on our right. By this time I had been joined by the whole of the 45th." Though there is nothing conclusive in this evidence, at the same time it seems to corroborate in a measure the view that the five companies under Colonel Meade did take part in the charge. The companies under Captain Lightfoot would have been rallied at the bottom of the valley after the French had been hurled down the hill; and his letter seems to point to the fact that it was there that they were joined by the rest of the Regiment.

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If so, they must have charged down the hill also. Again, the column of French ascending the hill, referred to by Captain Lightfoot, was no doubt Foy's Division, which attacked after Merle's defeat ; and as he goes on to say that his company fired into their flank, it must have been as they were ascending the hill ; consequently his company must have been either still in the valley or, at any rate, not yet back on the summit, as it would have taken them a considerable time to regain their former position.

As soon as Regnier saw the repulse of Merle's Division, he ordered Foy to advance to the attack. Before reaching the top of the hill they were attacked on the left by the battalion of the 8th Portuguese under Colonel Douglas, which made the column swerve to its right. On reaching the summit, it was attacked by Barnes' Brigade of Leith's Division, the 74th Regiment, and the 9th Portuguese Regiment, and after a short struggle was hurled back down the hill, Foy himself being wounded.

With the repulse of Foy's Division all fighting ended on the British right ; but the Light Division had meantime been heavily engaged on the left.

Ney, who was ordered to attack as soon as Regnier's Column had appeared on the crest of the ridge, directed Loison's Division to attack by the Sulla road, supported by Marchand's Division, while Mermet's Division was held in reserve. The attack was commenced about 7 a.m., and Craufurd's light troops were compelled to retire from the village of Sulla. On reaching the crest of the hill, Loison's Column came into collision with the 52nd and 43rd Regiments, who were quickly reinforced by the 95th and the 3rd Caçadores. The British force completely overlapped the French columns, and enveloped them in a murderous fire, which completely checked their further advance. Seeing the French column thrown into some disorder, the four regiments charged down the hill, completing its defeat and driving it headlong into the valley in the greatest disorder.

The whole action did not last more than twenty minutes, and the repulse was so decisive that no further attack was attempted at this point. The French loss was heavy, especially in prisoners, among whom was General Simon.

About 8 a.m. Marchand attacked further to the left, but

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made no headway against Pack's Brigade, and was eventually ordered by Ney to retire.

The discomfiture of the French was thus complete along the whole line, and Wellington was left in possession of the ground his troops had so gallantly defended against Napoleon's veterans.

After his defeat Massena seriously meditated a retirement into Spain; but learning of the road to the northward by which the British position could be turned, he advanced on September 30th by that route, and Wellington, discovering his purpose, retired on to the lines of Torres Vedras.

The French losses amounted to upwards of 5000; the British and Portuguese casualties together being returned at 1267. The heaviest loss of the day was suffered by the 45th, which lost 3 officers—Major Smyth, Captain Urquhart, and Lieutenant Ouseley—and 22 rank and file killed; 4 officers—Major Gwynne, Lieutenant Harris, Lieutenant Tyler, Lieutenant Anderson—and 106 rank and file wounded, and 12 rank and file missing—a total of 147, a heavy proportion out of a total strength of 595 of all ranks. The bulk of the losses, however, undoubtedly fell upon the light company and the four companies under Major Gwynne, who were so heavily attacked by Merle's Column; and as these companies probably did not total more than 300 all told, they must have lost nearly 50 per cent of their strength, and it speaks volumes for their steadiness and gallantry that they should have emerged victorious from such an encounter.

Wellington in his despatch says: "One division of French infantry arrived at the top of the ridge, where it was attacked in the most gallant manner by the 88th Regiment under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Wallace, the 45th under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. R. Meade,* and by the 8th Portuguese Regiment under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Douglas, directed by Major-General Picton. These three corps advanced with the bayonet, and drove the enemy's division from the advantageous ground which they had obtained." Further on he also says: "And I beg to assure your Lordship that I have never witnessed a more gallant attack than that made by the 88th, 45th, and

* Does this suggest that the other five companies were present at the charge?

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8th Portuguese Regiments on the enemy's division which had reached the ridge of the Sierra." He also mentions the gallant conduct of Major Smyth.

Grattan, in *Adventures with the Connaught Rangers*, in describing the charge against Merle's Division, writes : " Wallace threw himself from his horse, and placing himself at the head of the 45th and 88th, with Gwynne of the 45th on one side of him, and Seton of the 88th on the other, ran forward at a charging pace into the midst of the terrible flame in his front.

" All was now confusion and uproar, smoke, fire and bullets, officers and soldiers, French drummers and French drums knocked down in every direction, British, French, and Portuguese mixed together ; while in the midst of all was to be seen Wallace fighting like his ancestor of old at the head of his devoted followers, and calling out to his soldiers to press forward.

" Never was defeat more complete, and it was a proud moment for Wallace and Gwynne when they saw their gallant comrades breaking down and trampling under their feet this splendid division composed of some of the best troops the world could boast of."

General Picton in his despatch says, in reference to the recapture of the rocks by the light companies : " Major Smyth most gallantly led them to the charge, and gained possession of the rocks, driving the enemy before him ; but I am concerned to say, fell in the moment of victory, for which we are chiefly indebted to his animating example."

Such, in brief, was the victory of Busaco, in which no regiment had a more glorious share than the 45th ; and long may its memory remain, an animating example to those to whose hands, now and in the future, is entrusted the honour so nobly gained by those who fought and those who died on the Sierra de Busaco a century ago.

P. H. DALBIAC.

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II

BUSACO AND CIUDAD RODRIGO

THE following are extracts from letters written by Captain T. Lightfoot, who commanded a company of the 45th during the above actions.

Captain Lightfoot was eventually promoted Major-General, and received the Peninsula medal with eleven clasps in 1847.

The extracts have been kindly submitted for publication by Major T. W. Lightfoot, 8th Rajputs.

BUSACO

October 1st, 1810.

PONTAL.

Probably you will have heard of the action we have had with the French on the Sierra Busaco, about two leagues off Coimbra, before this can reach you. Our position was certainly impregnable when properly defended, on the summit of a high ridge of mountains, which stretched athwart the roads by which the French Army intended passing to Coimbra. At foot of the mountains were ravines steep and difficult. The attack was made on two points at the same instant, the left and centre, or rather the right centre. The ground on the right was by far the easiest of ascent, and there the main attack was made. As I was too busy to see what was going on on the left, I shall not attempt to describe it. Immediately day dawned on the 27th of September, we were told a very strong column were ascending the hill in front of the 88th Regiment, which was on our left ; and as there was an interval between us of about 500 yards, and in the weakest point of the position, four companies of the 45th were ordered off under Major Gwyn to support the 88th by occupying a portion of the interval. My company was one of those

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ordered. We marched with great haste, and on arriving found the enemy considerably advanced up the hill, directing his column to the very point we then occupied, the flanks of the columns being covered with two battalions of Tirailleurs. The action instantly began on our part, and Major Gwyn, being wounded almost immediately, sent me word that the command devolved on me.

At this critical moment the enemy were advancing with great regularity, and the fire of the Tirailleurs became exceedingly destructive, and as they came creeping on close to the ground, it was seldom we could see them ; however, our fire destroyed a considerable number, but not sufficient to retard their advance. In the course of a quarter of an hour I found my little force so much diminished that I was obliged to fall back. I had scarce left the brow of the hill, intending to fall back on the 88th, before the column gained the ground I had a moment before vacated. One of my own company had not even time to descend from some rocks where he had been placed, before the enemy's Tirailleurs seized him. The Colonel of the 88th, seeing from his position that the enemy had forced me from the hill, wheeled up his Regiment to the right by companies, marched round the point of the rocks, and instantly seeing the French column standing on the summit of the hill, charged its flanks. Two companies also which had been thrown out opened a fire on its rear.

The 8th Regiment of Portuguese at the same time came up on its front. Thus circumstanced, the enemy saw no safety but in retreat, which was executed with much rapidity, we pursuing them with a galling fire to the bottom of the ravine. I had scarce withdrawn my four companies, when a fresh column was seen ascending the hill by another ravine on our right. By this time I had been joined by the whole of the 45th, my senior Captain being away with the Light Company. Colonel Mead being in conversation with General Spencer, and neither seeing the column approaching the summit of the hill, I ran to the Colonel, and telling him, asked if I might take the men and throw in a fire on the enemy's flank, which he instantly acceding to, I led them forward, and placing them exactly opposite the flank of the column at a distance of 350 yards, I ordered them to fire, kneeling by way of sheltering them from the Tirailleurs. The men then

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poured their fire with great effect into the column, which was continued for ten minutes. The 8th Portuguese also did the same. At last we saw the column go to the rightabout, General Leith having come up on the right flank and charged it in front. Down it descended solemnly and slow, pursued by us with shouts that made the air resound; but having followed them nearly to the bottom of the ravine, we again withdrew our troops and resumed our original ground.

The enemy, not having been able to force our position, have at length turned it, and we are now falling back on our fortified lines near Lisbon, where we shall arrive in about four days.

To give some idea of the fire, I may say that my company, which mustered forty strong, had only eighteen survivors, and another company had only fifteen.

The Colonel has just given me the Light Company in the handsomest manner imaginable, the senior Captain succeeding to the vacant Majority.

CIUDAD RODRIGO

February 20th, 1812.

I have the satisfaction of informing you of the successful termination of our labours before Ciudad Rodrigo. Lord Wellington taking advantage of Marmont's absence, and as suddenly and unexpectedly, laid siege to the place.

We marched for this purpose on such a day as this, the 4th February, as I have never seen before; such a hurricane of hail, wind, and snow, with such piercing cold as the wind rushed down the mountains, that men and animals lay promiscuously dead or dying on the road. Such was the prospect with which we commenced our first operations against Rodrigo. The weather, however, improved later, and we had only frost and cold to contend with. Lord Wellington reconnoitred the place and surrounding ground on the 18th, and the same evening a detached fort, which was erected as an outwork on the ground, was carried by storm. A captain and two or three subordinate officers and fifty men were

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taken on this occasion, and the trenches were immediately opened.

By the 14th, the guns were in the Batteries, and commenced their fire on the evening of that day. Two breaches being practicable on the nineteenth, Lord Wellington determined to storm, and in the evening, about 7 p.m., the troops were assembled for the purpose in the following order:

The Light Division to scale the walls by ladders, on the left of the breach. General Colville's Brigade, consisting of the 2nd Battalion 5th, 96th, and 83rd Regiments, to scale on the right of it, and General Mackenzie's Brigade, with the 45th, 74th, and 88th, to ascend the breach, preceded by the light companies of the Brigade. Here I was destined to lead a storming party with my company, preceded only by the forlorn hope, consisting of ten file; we quickly ascended the breach, and such a slaughter commenced! The enemy had cut off the breach by a deep ditch and parapet. To descend into the body of the place was impossible, owing to the perpendicular depth of the fall from the ramparts, and the masses of ruins which lay scattered there. About twenty yards in our front were the enemy posted behind the low wall, keeping up an incessant fire of musketry and cannister. The men fell in heaps; but in the meantime, the other troops having successfully scaled the walls to right and left, the enemy fled, firing as they went two mines between them and us, by which many were blown to atoms. We now let each other down into the interior of the place, and charged through the whole town, but the enemy had hid himself in the houses, to escape from immediate slaughter. Many were afterwards made prisoners, so that they suffered greatly in either killed or wounded, but our loss is also very great. We walked from the dead and dying. Four of my subalterns were killed, and . . . whom I much esteemed. I was near losing my leg, a ball having struck me just above the ankle, but was turned off by the spur of my boot, and left no more than a rent in my trousers.

(" *The Old Stubborns.*")

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BUSACO

The following telegram was sent from Colonel Mesquita, commanding the 8th Portuguese Infantry, to the 1st Battalion through the Army Council on September 27th last :

" The Commandant and Officers 8th Infantry Regiment transmit congratulations to 88th and 45th Regiments of the British Army on the centenary of the battle of Busaco, in which they distinguished themselves in a celebrated bayonet charge "

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III

1ST M.I. PARTY, 2ND BATTALION, IN SOUTH AFRICA

Contributed by MAJOR J. E. PINE-COFFIN, D.S.O.
(*Late Loyal North Lancashire Regiment*)

MALTA, *February 20th*, 1900.—Sailed for South Africa with all trained M.I. that were quartered in the island. Among these various units was a section of the Derbyshire Regiment under Lieutenant Attfield. Not having seen any of the officers or men before, it was a difficult matter to pick out the best for the various posts they had to fill. Attfield came to my notice at Las Palmas as being an officer with a considerable amount of pluck. It occurred in this way. A bragging native came on board the *Pavonia* (which, by the way, was our transport) and, divesting himself of his garments, challenged any British soldier to dive off the ship from the height he could. Attfield at once took up the challenge, and after the third dive, going one higher each time, the native gave it up. This was typical of Attfield's spirit—anything for the honour of his country, anything for the credit of his regiment. I hope the regiment has many more like him.

Later on I made Attfield my Adjutant, and I chose the right man.

I have letters and telegrams in my possession from Lord Roberts and other Generals expressing their great admiration of the gallant acts of this officer at various times. I am unable to write down or express in words how much I appreciate him, or how much I felt his loss, or how I still mourn for him. To me fell the sad task of laying him to rest at Ventersburg Road: my most gallant officer, my greatest friend.

Perhaps it would be as well to put in here how Attfield was killed.

Sunday, October 14th, 1900.—We received intelligence that a force of Boers, about 100, were holding a kopje called

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Cyphergat, within striking distance of the line south of Kroonstad. We proceeded to attack them, and were successful in the fight. After the fight we had several prisoners and our own wounded, and we decided to return towards Ventersburg Road. Our force consisted of 150 M.I., one pom-pom, one maxim. As we were retiring from the position, our flankers came galloping in to report that a large force of the enemy were coming up and encircling our position. With our glasses we saw Boers in every direction, riding hard on both flanks, evidently intending to cut off our line of retreat. In every direction we saw men and horses, and we soon realised that we had attacked the advanced party of a large force. We had a short consultation as to the best thing to do, and decided to make for Kroonstad, moving across the open country in square formation, with the guns inside. Attfield was on the left flank. About three miles ahead was a range of hills. I directed the march on a certain point, and ordered, if charged, that the men were to face the enemy and fire from their horses (all the men had been trained to do this). As expected, the enemy charged repeatedly as we crossed the open flat country. The maxim and pom-pom were fired without unlimbering. We eventually gained the hills. Attfield was killed in this retirement by General P. Botha, both firing at each other from their horses. (I did not myself see this, but I believe the information to be reliable.) The men behaved splendidly; there was no confusion under most critical conditions. Poor Attfield was sent in later by General P. Botha, with a letter saying how much he regretted that the life of such a gallant young officer should have been lost. It was the fortune of war. We much appreciated this letter.

N.B.—Sections of the Derbyshire Regiment were engaged throughout the war with my M.I.

Cape Town, March 20th.—Pavonia arrived. The M.I. ordered to proceed to East London. Pay Office at Cape Town decided to christen us "The Malta M.I.," hence our name.

April 1st.—Arrived East London. Ordered to proceed up country at once. Various orders arrived. First we were to go to General French; finally we went with Kitchener to Aliwal North, and were attached to the Colonial Division under General Brabant. We were evidently taken for Maltese owing to our name. In fact, General Brabant said that he

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was afraid that none of his men were able to talk our language.

April 14th.—Proceeded with Colonial Division to Wepener, fighting the whole way; all baggage sent through Basutoland. Lived as best we could off the country. A very trying march, lasting about five days.

April 21st.—Met large force of Boers with artillery at Bushman's Kop, south of Wepener. Several of our scouts hung up; many wounded. Had much difficulty in extricating them.

April 22nd.—Took up a position north of Bushman's Kop, Colonial Division attacking from the south. Attacked by large force. Managed to hold the place; but some of the Natal Volunteers left in a hurry. Our M.I. behaved splendidly under critical conditions.

April 25th.—Relieved Wepener. General Brabant arrived from the south before General Rundle got there from the north.

April 29th.—General Hart, in a special order, praised the work of our M.I.

May 1st.—Ordered by General Hart to march on Smithfield and try and capture the town. Several British prisoners inside it. Made a night march and got round the place. Town surrendered after about four hours. General Hart personally thanked us for successfully carrying out a most dangerous and difficult task. Enemy outnumbered us very considerably, both on the line of march and in the town.

N.B.—My force consisted of Colonial troops as well as our own M.I.

May 5th.—Arrived at Bethulie Bridge.

May 6th.—Proceeded as fast as possible to Bloemfontein.

May 10th.—Ordered to hurry north of Bloemfontein.

May 19th.—Arrived at Zand river and held a position there for some time. Occasional skirmishes with the enemy.

After this date we were constantly engaged with the enemy towards Senekal and Winberg and north of Kroonstad. In fact, I might say that we were shot at most days. The men were always keen.

The most important affairs that the M.I. were engaged in whilst under my command may be of interest.

South of Kroonstad, O.R.C., the Boers held up a train,

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This train contained the American Consul, Lord Lennox, and despatches for Lord Roberts. We arrived on the scene of the disaster, and found that the enemy had burnt the train, taken some prisoners, and ridden away to the north-west. We followed them up, and encountered their rear-guard about fifteen miles from the wrecked train. The enemy took up a position on the ridge of a plateau, horseshoe-shape. We got good cover near a farmhouse below the plateau, and about 300 yards from the position. We had about 100 men, and decided to advance by sections at wide intervals at the fastest pace and gallop through the enemy's position. Lieutenant Attfield led the advance. The advance was over a gentle slope. The result of this gallop was that the Boers were quite unprepared for these tactics (towards the end of the war they were often employed), and were able to fire very few quickly-aimed shots at us, knocking over a few horses and wounding a few men. After passing through the Boer firing-line, we quickly dismounted and opened fire at close range on the enemy. The ground was quite level, with ant-heaps for cover. A mirage at our backs assisted us. The enemy eventually surrendered. Some of the prisoners told us that the mirage had made it difficult for them to get our range. Captain Theron, the Boer scout leader, was in command of this raiding party. Most of the despatches and loot secured by the Boers from the train were recovered.

Copy of telegrams from Lord Roberts and General Kelly-Kenny :—

" I congratulate you and the men under your command on your prompt action and excellent fight. It is most creditable, and will have the best results.

" 10/9/00. (Sgd.) Gen. KENNY (Bloemfontein)."

The following from Lord Roberts begins :—

" Please convey to Captain Pine-Coffin my thanks for his very well managed affair ; also to the men under his command. A. A. General."

The next fight of importance in which our men were engaged was with General Philip Botha, about ten miles S.E. of Ventersburg Town. We had crossed the Doornberg Range north of Winberg, and had bivouacked. Intelligence arrived

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stating that General P. Botha and head-quarters of the O.F. State Boers were laagered at a farm about fifteen miles from our position. My column was a strong one, consisting of artillery, Colonials, and two regiments M.I. The Boer forces were supposed to be fairly numerous. On getting the information, we decided to march that night and attack at daybreak. The first thing that occurred was, the advanced party ran into a woman's laager. This was quickly captured, but some of the enemy got away and made for the enemy's main laager. As day broke we saw a party of about thirty men in khaki riding parallel with us on our flank and signalling to us. One of them came across, and I asked him what column he belonged to. He said he belonged to Colonel Williams' column. This I knew to be false, as we had left this column at Ventersburg Town. We found out that this man belonged to the enemy's forces. We made him a prisoner. While this was going on the Boer forces deployed, and we saw that we were in for a big fight. The fight now began, the enemy attacking in front with part of their force and trying to get round our right flank. At first we were driven back from our positions, and were in rather a tight place. But General P. Botha made a mistake; he led the attack on our front position, and charged into an ambush we had prepared for him in a mealie field, with the result that he was killed, with his son and many other Boers, and this changed the whole state of affairs. Our rear-guard became an advance-guard, and the whole column were very soon pressing the Dutchmen and chasing them in every direction. At length a flag of truce came in asking us to suspend hostilities and send doctors to the Boers. We did so, and our doctor attended the General and the wounded enemy.

Our casualties, both in officers and men, were heavy, and a considerable number were missing, some of whom eventually turned up.

Lieutenant Attfield had been killed in action before this, but some of his men were present at this engagement.

This fight began at dawn and lasted till the evening, and as we had been marching all night our men and ourselves were about done up.

I have picked out the most interesting parts from my diary, and as some of the men of your Regiment were en-

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gaged all through the war with my column, it is not possible to put down all the engagements they were in. I have nothing but praise for their conduct, often under most trying conditions.

Copy of telegram from Lord Roberts :—

"Captain Pine-Coffin encountered a number of Boers on the 14th near Ventersburg Road station. He succeeded in driving them from their position, when he received information that another party was threatening his line of retreat. In the retirement, during which he was closely pressed, Lieutenant H. K. Attfield, Derby M.I., was killed. Lieutenant Attfield is a great loss ; he has been more than once brought to my notice for gallant conduct by General Kelly-Kenny."

J. E. P.-C.

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IV

3RD PARTY *

MALTA TO SOUTH AFRICA

s.s. *Hawarden Castle* (at sea),
February 1st, 1901.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

You may like to hear how we of the Derbyshire M.I. got from Malta to Port Elizabeth (via Cape Town and Durban).

As you know, it was on January 5th that Nos. 3, 4, and 5 Malta Companies M.I. at length embarked on board the s.s. *Rameses*, and grateful everyone was to get away from the wet and mud of Pembroke Camp. Some of the mud we still carry about with us. The bands of the 2nd and 3rd L.N. Lancs. Regt., and the 3rd Royal Warwicks, and R.A. played us from the Camp to Quay. It was about midday when we embarked. There were many friends to see us off, including several who went away richer than they came on board. After watching *Imtarfa* disappear in the distance, most of us went below, as it was not as smooth outside as it might have been. The voyage to Gibraltar was very cold, peaceful, and uneventful.

We reached Gibraltar on the 9th, wondering whether the *Hawarden Castle* had gone on without us, but were relieved when we saw her white hull and red and black funnel, and could read her name through the glasses. She had left England on the 2nd, so had been waiting over three days for us, which gave those on board a grievance ! The *Rameses* was put alongside her, and we transhipped as soon as possible. We were all sorry to leave the *Rameses*, where we had been very comfortable.

As the *Hawarden Castle* was not to sail until next morning,

* The doings of the 2nd Party were chronicled in last year's "Annual."—ED.

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some of us got a run on shore, but I don't think anyone went to the Fancy Dress Ball which was on that night. There were now seventy-five officers and about 1000 men on board, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Quayle-Jones, C.B., of the 2nd Royal Warwicks. All the men from Aldershot were wearing slouch hats . . . and a curious greenish khaki. Some of us were lucky enough to get letters at Gibraltar, but otherwise there was no news.

We left Gibraltar on the 10th, and at once began to roll. The *Hawarden Castle* can roll, too. The night of the 10th is best forgotten . . . but we wished we were back on the steady *Rameses*. However, next day things looked brighter . . . and what with physical drill by companies, running exercise, and lectures by Section Officers, we were fully amused.

We reached Las Palmas in the Canaries at 6.30 a.m. on the 12th, and spent a very pleasant day ashore, though there is not much to see there. What struck us most was the excellence of the hotels . . . and one could not help comparing them most favourably with those of Malta. We got no news here . . . in fact they expected news from us. We sailed at 9.30 p.m. for a ten days' run without sighting land. One of the most exciting moments spent so far was leaping frantically at the companion ladder to get on board again out of the small boat which brought us from shore, there being a heavy swell on.

Next day or the day after we buried a poor fellow of the W. Kent Militia, who died from pneumonia.

Life for the next week or so would have been very monotonous and dull but for one great treat . . . inoculation . . . which gave us a subject of conversation for days. All the officers were done . . . the men declining. . . . It is not pleasant, and for twenty-four hours after the injection one becomes a cripple, and walks about like a very old man. One dare not laugh, or sneeze even, it hurts so. But it gradually wears off, although one goes stiff for two or three days. About a week later we all had our second injection . . . which caused greater signs of distress than the first . . . and caused the tug-of-war between officers of the R.A. and M.I. to fall through in the sports which were held the day after.

It got a bit warm as we neared and crossed the line . . . but nothing very serious.

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On January 26th we reached Capetown, and right glad we were. We anchored outside first of all among fourteen other transports, and wondered to see all the flags flying half-mast, which prepared us for some bad news . . . but the shock was very great when we heard what it really was. At 12 noon King Edward VII was proclaimed, H.M.S. *Monarch* firing a salute from the harbour.

After lunch, when the *Simla* had made way for us, we went alongside . . . where we were told that we were not to disembark, but go on to Durban. We were not best pleased. We went ashore in the afternoon and inspected Capetown . . . a fine place, and well situated at the very foot of Table Mountain. It was just like a lovely July day at home there. We found the fashionable hotel, where we dined and paid! The town was full of soldiers of every age, size, and description. Mourning was universal, no sign of the disloyal Cape Dutch.

Colonel and Mrs. Wylly left us here, and sorry we all were, but we quite hope to run across them again soon with the 1st Battalion. Next day Sunday, and as we were not able to sail till 2 p.m., we took the men for a short march to stretch their legs after three weeks on board. On our way back Hobbs and I went to the hospital to see Major Gosset, who we heard was there . . . but found he was at Wynberg, about five miles out . . . so we went and had a look at the Boer prisoners instead . . . who appeared quite harmless and contented. No news of the war at all . . . only rumours. Sailed in the afternoon of 27th at 2 p.m. (three officers very nearly missed the ship) for Durban, having disembarked about thirty officers and a few details.

Passed Port Elizabeth at 6 a.m. the 29th; kept quite close to shore . . . delightful country it all looked. Reached Durban at 2.30 a.m., the 30th, in a thunderstorm. Later in the morning the disembarking officer came on board and told us we were not wanted . . . and would have to go back to Port Elizabeth or Capetown. Cheering news, very!

Spent the whole day outside the bar. Grumbling and trying to catch fish. A very damp heat here. Again no news of any sort, except that they are afraid the natives will mistake the King's head on the new coins for Mr. Kruger.

Yesterday, the 31st, we left Durban at 4 p.m., and ought

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to get to Port Elizabeth this evening. There, I trust, we shall disembark, for we have had enough of ship life . . . twenty-eight days on board . . . and plenty to eat and no exercise begins to tell sooner or later.

Whether we disembark or not I must leave to my next.

Kindest messages to all from us four.

Yours, etc.,

B. W.

EDENBURG, ORANGE RIVER COLONY,

May, 1901.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

As we—Nos. 3, 4, and 5 Companies Malta M.I., known as the 17th Regt. M.I.—have been on the trek for four months now, it seems a good opportunity to write and tell you how we have been faring. Take it all round, we have had a rough time, though latterly we have looked after ourselves much better. When one looks back, however, on the early days of the trek, and remembers the nights spent out in tropical rain with only one blanket, and often without that, and sopping bully beef for dinner, one marvels that anyone survived.

It was on February 2nd that we reached Port Elizabeth, at 2 a.m., but we did not disembark till the 3rd. We found our 4th Battalion there, and most kind they were to us, Brittan being especially cheery.

We stayed six days at Port Elizabeth, equipping ourselves and the men with a hundred and one necessary things. While there we discarded our helmets, and all took to slouch hats, which after trial I do not think an improvement, as they soon get soft and flappy, and blow down over one's eyes or on to the back of one's head. However, it seems to be the thing to wear them. So wear them we all did.

We left Port Elizabeth on February 9th by train, and reached Naauwpoort on the 11th. At Naauwpoort we were to draw horses and join a column being formed there under Colonel Hickman, D.S.O. The three companies were here formed into a regiment, the command of it being taken by Colonel Rochfort, R.H.A., with Captain Bright, R.A., as Adjutant. The Regiment left next day by train for Hanover Road,

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having left all the kits except one waterproof sheet, one blanket, one shirt, and one pair of socks per officer and man behind. From Hanover Road our trekking began. Each company took three mule wagons for rations and forage, one ammunition cart, and one water cart with it. As bad luck would have it, our first night out was the worst we have experienced. We camped at a farm called Stinkfontein. A good name for the place, where it rained in torrents all night, real tropical rain. No. 5 Company had been rear-guard, so on arriving in camp at dusk we found even our one blanket and waterproof sheet had been borrowed, so we had to spend the night as we were, drenched through, and sitting in pools of water, even under a wagon where we all huddled together. It was too wet to keep a pipe alight even!

We moved on the next day, spent another night in the rain, and reached Phillipstown on the 15th, and De Aar on the 16th.

At De Aar the column assembled. It consisted of ourselves, the 17th M.I. about 420 men, and the 16th M.I. about 450 men (made up of one company H.L.I., two companies King's Own Lancaster Regiment, and one company Manchester Militia), all under command of Major Harris (West Riding Regt.), four 15-prs. R.F.A., and one pom-pom. The Senior Medical Officer was Major Tate, R.A.M.C., whom some of us knew at Bareilly.

We stayed four days at De Aar, during which time we were hardly ever dry, as it poured regularly every night, and we had no shelter of any kind. We saw Major Shaw one day as he was passing through with General Bruce Hamilton, and gave him all the 2nd Battalion news.

On the 21st a detached force of 170 men 10th M.I. and the pom-pom, under Colonel Rochfort, went out to try and prevent a party of the enemy crossing the line, but after being away thirty-six hours, twenty-eight of which were actually spent on the move, we returned to De Aar more or less exhausted. On the 24th the column left De Aar to join the De Wet hunt. It seemed that there really was a good chance of rounding him up, as several columns were closing in all round, and the Orange River was too high after all the rain to be crossed except at the bridges and a few drifts which were held.

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After trekking for three days we suddenly came upon the enemy about midday, the 27th, near Sand Drift. There were several hundred of them making off towards the river. The guns galloped forward on to a ridge, and started shelling up the valley and the hills beyond. It was wonderful to watch the Boers clearing off, shells bursting all amongst them, without apparently inconveniencing them in the least.

No. 3 Company, who were sent out to pursue, unfortunately had two men hit, one of the Warwickshire Section, and Corporal Morton of the Derbyshire Section. Morton died the same night. The Colonel and Adams, commanding No. 3, both had their horses shot under them.

The next day we came in touch with Thornycroft's, Williams', Byng's, Crabbe's, and Henniker's Columns.

The Boers had eluded them all, and, breaking up into small parties, had got away, some even swimming the Orange River, after leaving their clothes and belongings on the south bank. We heard that in doing this some were drowned, at which we rejoiced.

Three days after, on March 2nd, we rode into Colesberg. In the afternoon I went over the hill where the Suffolks were cut up in the early part of the war, and was much struck by the ingenuity the Boers had shown in placing their trenches.

We left Colesberg the next day, and trekked for a week, reaching Bethulie on March 9th. We were much interested in seeing the wagon bridge which Shaw and Popham had saved, and over which the railway now runs, though they only let one truck go over at a time, which makes it a slow job. Passenger trains, therefore, go to Norval's Pont. The proper bridge, which the Boers blew up, has been repaired, and is in working order since we were there last.

We crossed the river, and camped on the north side of it, so were in the Orange River Colony, and in enemy's country.

We were beginning to live much more comfortably now, as we had commandeered Cape carts, each company having two among its five officers. In these we carried our valises, stores, and cooking pots, and at night formed a shelter with them by fastening a tarpaulin from one to the other.

We left Bethulie next day, the 10th, for Dewetsdorp. The country is much more open in the Orange River Colony than in Cape Colony. Great undulating plains, with high,

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flat-topped kopjes sticking up at intervals. All very ugly and monotonous, no trees or hedges, wire everywhere as fences, occasionally a farm with a tree or two, and a pool of water. From the farms, as we were now in enemy's country, we got our provisions, often making a good haul of bread or butter, if one's messenger was lucky enough to arrive there before those of the Head-Quarter Staff or R.A. The men would be seen riding away from the farm with a turkey tied on to one side of the saddle and two hens on the other, or one would see a gun limber with a dead pig tied on behind. We were now employed in clearing the country as we moved along, and anything more trying than driving hundreds of sheep and cattle along for ten or fifteen miles cannot be imagined. One's temper went and one's language became simply disgraceful. The next dreadful thing to driving them was trying to keep the brutes from breaking out of the kraals where they were herded for the night. If one beast of a sheep gets out it is quite as easy to stop a full-blown river as to stop the rest.

Reached Smithfield on the 13th, White, of the Scottish Rifles, Adjutant of the 16th M.I., being killed. Two days after I was sent with fifty men to try and communicate with Colonel White's column, which was on our right, but on reaching the Caledon we heard that White was at Wepener, and as the Caledon was too high to be forded, we had to return, after destroying a Free State Government mill, which burnt beautifully. On returning after a forty-mile ride, to where we were told the column would camp, we were met by a fearful thunderstorm about 7.30 p.m., with the most awful and vivid lightning any of us had ever seen. It quite blinded us, and soon everyone was lost, it being quite impossible to see the horse in front of you, or hear anything, owing to the torrents of rain. The only thing to be done was to stay till the storm abated, as it was impossible to see the track. After some time the storm slackened and, finding I had only the guide and my servant with me, I tried to find the rest, but the night being pitch dark, I could see or hear nothing. However, on getting to the top of a rise by accident, I saw the lights of camp, so started to wade there, hoping the others would do the same. It was much further than it looked, and very wearying work dragging a

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thoroughly tired horse after one (it was too dark to ride, and there was no road), for we had only had two hours' halt from 6 a.m. We three reached camp after midnight, and found no one else had turned up except two signallers. Out before daybreak to find the rest, and met them coming in, after having spent a terrible night. Mercifully for us, there were no Boers about! One man, however, got entirely lost and was reported missing, but he turned up smiling about three weeks or a month after, having fallen in with another column.

Reached Dewetsdorp on the 16th. The scene of much fighting. A pretty little township hidden in amongst the hills, so it is not seen until you arrive on the top of it. Another awful night with torrents of rain and a thunderstorm. The 17th, St. Patrick's Day, we spent at Dewetsdorp . . . it rained the whole time . . . but we were much cheered by receiving our first mail, which had been brought in by a convoy from Edenburg.

Off again on the 17th northwards.

Reached the Thaba-Nchu . . . Ladybrand line . . . on the 19th. On the 20th Colonel Rochfort, with two companies of the 17th M.I. and the pom-pom, moved west to Thaba-Nchu, passing by Springhaan Nek, where De Wet and 2000 men had galloped through and escaped. The rest of the column moved S.W., the two forces meeting on the 22nd, moved south again to Dewetsdorp, which the Boers had entered as we left on the 17th, firing into our rear-guard. We expected a fight on our way, as we had two scouts killed, and Boers were reported holding the hills we had to cross, but they did not wait for us. Camped on the 26th at Dewetsdorp. The next day Rimington's Guides went out to try and see what could be done with a lot of Boers who were hanging about, but after a good deal of firing on both sides they returned to camp in the evening. The pom-pom and a 15-pr. enjoyed themselves during the day by shelling from camp distant parties of the enemy.

Started next day early to try and chivy the Boers, the M.I. and guns gaily cantering across country, but we did not do any good, except to get one man hit and two or three captured. Rear-guard again came in for it on leaving Dewetsdorp.

Reached Reddersburg on the 30th and Edenburg on the

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1st April, after having left wagon loads of refugees and hundreds of sheep at Bethulie.

On April 5th, Good Friday, we were at Boomplats, where the 45th fought and won about 1847, though I am not at all sure about the date!

The 6th, No. 5 Company ran across the enemy at a farm called Towfontein, who gave No. 2 Section under Hobbs a very rough time, hitting two men, Privates Foulger and Dunleavy, and nine horses. Nos. 3 and 4 Sections under Little also came under shell fire from our own guns, who had mistaken them for the enemy. With the help of another company and a pom-pom we got away at dark. It was truly marvellous how so few were hit, as Hobbs and his men had to retire to the farm buildings across the open, under fire from 500 yards, and when behind the farm walls they were commanded by the Boers on the kopjes, who kept up a very hot fire for a couple of hours. It does not say much for their shooting.

Easter Sunday opened with a thick fog, in which a corporal and three men of No. 5 Company, who had gone out at daybreak to patrol, were captured. They turned up some days later, after being scared by the Boers, who had threatened to hang them.

Arrived at Phillipolis on the 10th, after a longish engagement on the 9th, in which a tremendous lot of firing was done on both sides, but the Boers, finding we were getting round them, cleared off. We had two men hit. Going into Phillipolis, we were sniped at.

The 11th, while at breakfast, we heard our patrols coming under heavy fire, so the pom-pom and a company went out to them and drove the Boers off, but not until Captain Lawrie and two men of the King's Own had been killed by explosive bullets, and three men wounded.

Back to the line to Springfontein on the 15th, after having both flanks and the rear-guard sniped.

We were always delighted to touch the line, as it meant getting mails, also a day or two's rest, and no picquets to find at night.

The next day I left the column on a week's leave to go to Bloemfontein to have teeth out. There I enjoyed the luxury of a bath and a thorough cleaning up, which I needed

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badly, as on the trek one's clothes get ragged and oneself unkempt.

Returned to the column on the 22nd at Paradise Siding, found them all fit, and heard that Colonels Hickman and Rochfort had got C.B.'s.

The column moved off west to watch the river between Norval's Pont and Bethulie, and prevent, if possible, Kritzinger and his men crossing. Stayed there five days, but saw no signs of enemy. On the 27th the force moved into Bethulie, Kritzinger crossing the same day we left.

Left Bethulie the 28th, and moved east along north bank of Orange River, reaching the Caledon at about 2.30 p.m. on the 29th. The drift we had to cross was a bad one, with very steep sides, and it took the transport till 8 a.m. the 30th to get across, even though they double-spanned the ox-wagons, that is, they had thirty-two oxen to pull a wagon. No. 5 Company has reason to remember that crossing, as we were rear-guard, and it was a very weary, cold, and hungry wait till it was our turn to cross, and get into camp about 2.30 a.m.

We next turned up at Aliwal North on May 6th, and found two companies of the Loyal North Lancashire Militia there, whom we had last seen in Malta.

From the 7th to the 30th the column moved slowly about, clearing the country; unfortunately in that time Helme, of the North Lancashires, was wounded and four men killed. On the 30th it again put in at Springfontein, where this rough diary must end, as there are rumours going round of this column being split up.

This, Mr. Editor, is, I am afraid, only a very bare and uninteresting outline of what we have been doing . . . but it would take too long to go into more detail. The life is much the same from day to day . . . a very cold and early rise, a scanty and hurried breakfast, and then off to advance-guard, right flank, or rear-guard, and one day in three with the main body. If the company was on the flank, it meant clearing farms, that is bringing in every living thing off it, and destroying any food-stuffs found there. A nice job it often was to get an old and stubborn Dutch vrouw to move; how slow she would be packing, too, when one expected every minute to hear the tick-tack of a Mauser from the neighbouring kopjes. Flank-guard was, I think, the most

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unpopular position, though rear-guard with the sheep ran it very close; into camp in the evening, and dinner as soon as it could be got, especially welcome on a rum night. Then about 8.30 or 9 turn in, except one wretched subaltern on picquet with his section, and 9.30 would see the remaining four officers of No. 5 asleep in a row between two Cape carts, with a tarpaulin across them.

I hope, Mr. Editor . . . you will forgive this being written in pencil . . . (it is indelible!) and that you will kindly look to the spelling, for I dare not read it through or most certainly I should not send it. Yours, etc., B. W.

LIEBENBERGSPAN, O.R.C.,
50 miles S.W. of Kimberley,
August 16th, 1901.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

Stung to desperation by the cruel taunts in your last number, I seize my stump of pencil and piece of paper, and will endeavour to write you, on the bottom of an empty biscuit-tin, some account of our doings since we left Malta. I won't trouble you with another account of the voyage, as I believe two have already appeared in your numbers; suffice it to say that after being taken to each port of South Africa in turn, and told we weren't wanted there, we were finally landed at Port Elizabeth on February 3rd. There we stayed six days, drawing ordnance stores and equipment, and being most hospitably entertained by our 4th Battalion, who had their head-quarters there. On the 9th we entrained for Naauwport, where we arrived early on the 11th, and were introduced to our C.O., Colonel Rochfort, R.H.A., and our column Commander, Colonel Hickman, D.S.O., Worcester Regiment. That day we spent in drawing horses . . . mostly Cape ponies . . . and unpacking our saddlery, etc., and the next day, or rather night, for it was 11.30 p.m. before we got the last mule in, we entrained for Hanover Road, and then we started to do our first trek in this country on February 13th. Since when we've been doing nothing else.

Our first experiences of trekking were not encouraging. It rained solidly for the first two days and nights, as it only

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can rain in this country. Our kit was cut down to one blanket, one waterproof sheet, one shirt, one pair of socks, and one pair of boots, besides what we carried on our horses. These kits were carried on a mule-wagon, and several of them, including my skipper's and my own, were lost the very first trek, owing to an accident to the wagon in a heavy drift. So all things considered, our debut on the warpath was not as successful as it might have been, from personal comforts point of view, anyhow. However, we surmounted these little difficulties, and ploughed our way on after De Wet, only to land three days later at De Aar, without having got even within news of him.

At De Aar we stopped a week waiting for news of De Wet and meeting several old friends, notably Major Shaw and "Plain" Jones of Aden.

On February 24th we trekked out again on De Wet's trail, making N.W. through Hout Kraal to Phillipstown, and on the 26th we sighted his convoy trekking away about 8 miles in front of us. All that day and the next we chased him, and on the evening of the 27th we got within striking distance of his rear-guard, near Dornkloof, and most of us received our baptism of fire, Corporal Morton, unfortunately, being killed . . . one of the only two casualties. It was too late to pursue them far, and beyond capturing a few horses and things they left behind them in their hurry, I don't think we did them much harm. The next day we trekked on without seeing a sign of the enemy, and that night we were all on picquet holding a drift over Seacow River, a tributary of the Orange, and everybody said that this time he couldn't possibly escape, as we were all round him; and yet he did, "swam" the Orange River apparently, with his whole convoy, for the "intelligent" people said it was unfordable all along there.

After that we went through Colesberg to Bethulie, and on into the Orange River Colony, "clearing out" the country, or, as you so aptly put it, "cattle-lifting." From Bethulie we went to Smithfield and Dewetsdorp, then up to Thaba-Nchu, and down through Reddersberg to Edenburg, without any excitement in the way of fighting.

From Edenburg we went S.W. to Phillippolis. The Boers down in this part of the country were always on the look-out, ready to jump on small parties, when opportunity offered.

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They nearly got me one day, as I was " clearing " a farm with my section. About sixty of them got up in the kopjes round the farm, without my look-out men seeing them, and gave us such a hot time when we tried to get away, that I had to wait for reinforcements from the column, before I could retire. I had two men and ten horses hit that day; one of the men was Private Foulger, hit through the thigh, and the other was a Northumberland Fusilier Militiaman, who, I am sorry to say, died next day.

From Phillippolis we trekked into Springfontein, where we stopped three days, then on again south, down the east of the line, to Norval's Pont, where we emptied our convoy of refugees and filled up again with supplies. After that we sat over a drift on the Orange River between Norval's Pont and Bethulie for four days, to stop Kritzinger crossing out of the colony, at the end of which time we trekked into Bethulie, and Mr. Kritzinger crossed the next day by the drift we had been watching.

From Bethulie we did a trek along the south bank of the Caledon River, down to Aliwal North and back again up to Smithfield. We stopped about there for a few days, clearing the country round Boesman's Kop, and scrapping " incidentally " nearly every day, and then trekked into Springfontein.

Here the column was broken up, and our C.O., Colonel Rochfort, was given command of a column, composed of two 15-pounder guns R.F.A., one pom-pom, 250 Rimington's Guides, and ourselves, now known as the 17th M.I. On June 6th this column started to take part in a great " drive " up the west side of the line, with nine other columns, all under the command of General Bruce-Hamilton, which resulted in the capture of about 200 prisoners and any amount of stock. Since then, we have been Boer-chasing with more or less success up to the present moment.

Our present plan of campaign is to sit under the highest kopje we can find during the daytime, with a look-out man on the top, who sees, or imagines he sees, small parties of Boers in the far distance, probably in the vicinity of a farm, and accordingly reports to that effect; then the authorities consult their maps, and we are launched forth at some evil hour of darkness to make a night attack on the aforesaid

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distant farm. These night raids are successful perhaps once in fifty times. A notable instance of success was when we got into Mybergh's commando the other night, and had the good luck to collar the commandant and his entire staff. Of the failures the less said the better; they come under the category of being too numerous to mention.

The composition of our column now is what I have given you above, with the exception of Rimington's Guides, who have been replaced by two squadrons of the 9th I.Y. At the beginning of June the companies were reorganised into regimental companies as far as possible, much to the satisfaction of everybody concerned. So what was known as No. 5 Company Malta Mounted Infantry, 17th M.I., now consists of the three sections of the Regiment, which left Malta at the beginning of January, and the Lancashire Fusiliers section, which was in the original No. 5 Company. As I write this there are only two officers with the company, Wood, Lancashire Fusiliers, and myself. Way, as you know, is at home, having been obliged to leave the company at the beginning of May, a victim to his old complaint, asthma. Mac Porter is presumably being entertained by brother Boer, having gone out three days ago with flag and copies of Kitchener's proclamations, to distribute among any commandos he could find in the neighbourhood . . . he was due back yesterday, but has not yet put in an appearance, and Luther has gone into Orange River Station with the convoy for supplies, attached to the L.N. Lanc. company, who are short of officers.

I feel I have encroached unduly upon your valuable space, but I was driven to it by the remarks in your last number. And, by way of retaliation, may I be permitted to ask, Is it overwork or excess of recreation at Malta as expounded by S. U. B. in your last, that has kept him and others of the Regiment from troubling us out here with correspondence of any kind or description?

C. H.

KLEIN VLAKFONTEIN, O.R.C.,
November 4th, 1901.

"It may be a good thing to be on the Mounted Infantry in South Africa, but why be too proud to write for 'I'm 95'

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or to your old comrades in Malta ? " Extract " I'm 95 " just received.

Has each of the old comrades in Malta got a clear conscience on the subject ?

Dear . . .

. . . By a careful study of " I'm 95 " and its carefully veiled hints, we have gathered that you have been on leave, and also a few facts about the other subs., otherwise silence ; now, however, that you have once more settled down, and your hand steady and head clear, let us have the news.

I will try and scrape together some news of our doings for you.

Well, to the ordinary mind of a regimental officer all is told in one word, " We trek " ; sometimes we " trek " in circles, sometimes in triangles or squares, sometimes west of the line, at others east, sometimes in conjunction with other columns, and sometimes (but this is very rarely) with a definite object in view.

At intervals we sit down and build forts for our protection, only moving on when they are quite finished and ready to be hastily destroyed by a fatigue party.

The Boers avoid our column like poison (that is in any quantity), although they frequently bestow their united attention on neighbouring columns, whereupon we rush out to the rescue three hours late.

Why is this ? Can the fame of our achievements and triumphs at many a Malta field day have preceded us ?

Under these circumstances Hobbs, Luther, and I lead a simple, and, on the whole, blameless existence, our cares divided between the possibility of our scant supply of whisky running out, and the utter impossibility of getting sufficient horses for the whole company.

Up to date we have happily avoided the " regrettable incident," a fashion which within the last fortnight has been rather strong locally among the columns.

Five days ago 150 of us encountered about 250 Transvaal ruffians, but as we got first to the kopje and did most of the shooting for a change, no harm came ; I believe the I.Y. had nine horses hit, but nothing else.

I think Hobbs mentioned in his last letter that I was away on a flag of truce incident, and I have since seen a

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long account of it in a paper, but you may be interested in mine !

I adventured forth from camp with Lord Kitchener's proclamation (not a very soothing document in itself), also I was made to take a Cape cart from which fluttered proudly in the breeze a borrowed (?) table-cloth, and I rode somebody else's horse arrayed in my new Sunday kit from England (a piece of foolishness on my part, which subsequently excited the envy, hatred, and malice of the whole commando) ; and armed with many sealed-up proclamations, a haversack full of cigarettes, and two days' bread and rations.

I found some Boers, and was taken to their laager by stealth at dead of night, where horses and mules disappeared as if by magic. However, on the morrow, the commandant (Mershout?) was full of vague promises, and things went well till one Judge Hertzog (also general) appeared upon the scene. Then we had much talk and many threats of shooting, but after a time they came to the conclusion that I was harmless, and promised to restore our mules, etc. They quickly changed their minds, however, burning and looting anything they fancied, which soon changed the flag of truce mission into a very sorry-looking spectacle. On the following morning we were started off with an armed escort towards the lines on foot. They left us that afternoon, and on the next afternoon, after much bad language, I arrived at the " line " very hungry, and considerably the worse for wear.

I may mention I was accompanied by Sergeant Wilkins (?) and two Kaffir boys. Four days' leave to Bloemfontein, however, soon restored my injured feelings and appearance, and I eventually got back by an outgoing convoy to the anxious Hobbs, who in the meantime had surprised and captured a laager containing nine young women, and, I think, one hardened ruffian, who actually possessed a rifle.

November 23rd.

There has been a considerable pause since beginning this letter to you, as we have been violently trekking round the country. We " put up " a commando of about 150 of them, keeping them within range all day.

Some few of them caused a diversion by holding a farm for about an hour, but were captured. Amongst others, we found

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we had got ex-General Kolby, who told us he was commanding at Kimberley during the siege ; he also bitterly resented the bayonet as a means of warfare. Our attention has also been occupied by five other commandos which have all been on the rampage together, but as they have now scattered, we have returned to this evil place. Of our future movements I can tell you little. There are vague shaves about our going up to Senekal, which would be a great change, as we are all very sick of our part of the country.

Our company is now very weak. Are any more coming out ? If so, tell them to be sure and come out as a draft to us and not as a separate unit.

We have not had a word from " Brom " since he left us six months ago on three months' sick leave. As Wood (Lancs. Fusiliers) has gone home, wounded and enteric, we could do very well with another subaltern.

Horses are still a great trouble, and we have never had enough from the very start. We lost seven at the farm last week, but this makes no difference to the " powers that be," who deal us out two or three about once in two months, when we really require fifty per month to carry on at all. No further news. Xmas greetings to all.

Yours,

R. Mc E. PORTER.

(From " I'm Ninety Five.")

[It may here be mentioned that the total numbers of all ranks sent to South Africa as M.I. from the 2nd Battalion were 12 officers, 16 sergeants, and 344 men.—ED.]

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V

4TH PARTY

NARRATIVE COMMENCED BY MAJOR G. W. DOWELL
(*Loyal North Lancashire Regiment*)

DECEMBER 14th, 1901.—Three companies of M.I. left Malta in s.s. *Menes* for South Africa under my command, viz.—

1 Co. Lancashire Fusiliers, 1 Co. Warwick Regiment, 1 Co. Derbyshire Regiment; the officers of this last company were Captain Spearman, Warwick Regiment, in command, and Lieuts. Howell, Meares, and Paul, Derbyshire Regiment, with Lieut. Churchill, of, I think, a militia battalion. We reached Gibraltar on the 18th, and on the day following transhipped to the *Lake Erie* (Elder Dempster Line), and sailed for South Africa, arriving at Capetown on the 9th January, 1902, and leaving the same day for Durban, which was reached on the 14th. On the 17th we arrived at Pretoria, and here the M.I. Company of the Suffolk Regiment joined and completed our Battalion, henceforth to be known as the 28th M.I.

On the 27th we trained to Elandsfontein, marched thence on February 1st to Springs, trained on the 5th to Wolverhoek, and marched next day to a place called Arcadia, to act as a " stop " for a De Wet drive next day, when, so far as we were concerned, there were no results. On the 9th we returned to Wolverhoek, moving thence to Tailbosch, and arrived at 10 a.m. on the 10th at Vereiniging, leaving at 10 p.m. to march to Klip River, being fired at by the blockhouses and armoured train all the way, but no damage was done. We arrived at Klip River at 4 a.m. on the 11th, and at 7.30 o'clock next morning were ordered by wire from Vereiniging to proceed into the Zuikerbosch Range, where we were assured there were no Boers. Took three companies —Lancashire Fusiliers, Royal Warwicks and Derbys—leaving

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latter in reserve in the open to fall back upon. Going forward with the other two companies, came under very heavy fire, so fell back on the Derbyshire Company; but their ponies, being frightened at the firing, stampeded, as did all the others, so we made a stand where we were. Boers were practically all round us. Young Howell was killed, and also thirteen men (though I am unable to say to what companies they belonged), while six officers and fifty men were wounded. It turned out afterwards that we did more execution amongst the Boers than they did amongst us, and they—reported to be over 1000 strong, and the remnants of De Wet's force, which had gone to the Zuikerbosch for a rest—left us alone and retired back into the hills.

I fear this is the end of my experiences, as I was taken into hospital and finally invalided home; but Laurie, Royal Irish Rifles, relieved me in command, and will, I am sure, carry on the history of the Regiment's M.I. The only bright spot of February 12th was the courage shown by officers and men of all ranks. There was not a single man who surrendered, and no one got into the hands of the Boers except he was wounded and incapable of moving.

I think you ought to know the brave deed which was the cause of Howell's death. He and I were together when both our horses were shot. We were both using our revolvers when I was bowled over. I then told him to get away, as he might have done then, and it was no good his stopping—but I remember his answer was, "I won't leave you, sir," and he stood over me with his revolver while I lay on the ground, when he was shot through the heart and fell dead by my side. After I came home I tried to get the V.C. for his people, but I regret to say I could not manage it.

G. W. D.

CONTINUED BY MAJOR G. B. LAURIE
(*Royal Irish Rifles*)

The Klip River fight, as reported to you by Major Dowell, took place on February 12th, 1902. The losses were: killed, one officer and ten non-commissioned officers and men; wounded, six officers and thirty-four men; and one man missing. There were seventy-six casualties among the horses.

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The next engagement in which the M.I. of the Derbyshire Regiment took part was in an encounter at Bushman's Kop on March 6th. The action is said to have arisen through General (Ghazi) Hamilton, who was in command, having given an order to the Suffolk M.I. and the Derby M.I. to clear the enemy off a kopje on his flank, whilst he passed on with his column towards the railway line, whither he had been ordered to proceed without delay to obtain supplies for the column. The two companies proceeded to carry out their orders, but were received by a superior number of Boers, and suffered heavily, until withdrawn by the General. The Suffolk M.I. lost four wounded, whilst the Derby M.I. had five men wounded, of whom one died, and seven non-commissioned officers and men who had pushed in close to the enemy were unable to retire with their company, and were made prisoners, but subsequently rejoined. The wounded were: No. 6075 Corporal Woodward, shot in the abdomen and right shoulder, died on the morning of March 7th; No. 6358 Private Neilan, hit in three places, viz. left forearm, thorax, and right thigh; No. 6551 Private Disney, wounded in back and foot; No. 6566 Private Watson, shot in abdomen; and No. 4377 Private Taylor, wounded in the left thigh.

About March 10th Captain Laurie, Royal Irish Rifles, arrived from his own M.I., and assumed command of the Battalion. It then had 125 horses fit for duty, out of about 700 on its strength, and nearly 100 officers, non-commissioned officers, and men were already casualties out of its original strength of 610. The Battalion was then moved hurriedly down to Klerksdorp, as a great concentration of troops was taking place, owing to the defeat and capture of Lord Methuen near that place by General Delarey's forces. About March 20th the troops were taken out from Klerksdorp at 6 p.m., moved due west for some 50 miles, and then, facing about, "drove" the Boers between them and the Klerksdorp-Pretoria railway line. Nearly 200 Boers were captured, but 1500 were actually located, and attacked by the 28th M.I., when they were ordered to "cease fire" and move to another position. After protest, in obedience to orders, they moved, having satisfied themselves that it was General Kemp's commando, and having done a certain amount of

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damage, as witnessed by a dead Boer picked up. The Battalion reached camp the following night about 8 o'clock, and returned to Klerksdorp the next day. It left Klerksdorp again on Friday, March 28th, with Colonel Keir's Column. On March 31st, at 2 a.m., it left its bivouac and marched towards the Hartz River. About 10 a.m. a colonial corps in front became engaged, and sent for assistance. The 28th M.I. was directed to move forward, and after a gallop of eight miles drove off a strong body of the enemy by a determined flank attack, suffering some loss. The Battalion was then ordered to hold some open ground whilst the whole column, some 1800 strong, moved into bivouac by the Hartz River, at a place called Boshbult. At 1 p.m. Major Laurie sent in to say that the enemy was very numerous on the western side of the camp, i.e. opposite to the place he was defending. Little notice was taken of the information, as the crest-line could not be well seen from the camp, and at 1.20 p.m. the guns captured from Lord Methuen opened at 6000 on the British camp, and 3000 mounted Boers galloped down the slope in a long line, firing as they came. A large part of the mule transport in camp immediately bolted towards the east, urged on by their native drivers, but this rush was stopped by some marksmen of the 28th M.I., who were ordered to shoot the leaders, and by 2nd Lieutenant Paul, Derbyshire Regiment, acting as my galloper, who rode up to the drivers revolver in hand, and stopped them. (Meares this day was galloping for the O.C. the Force.) The Derbyshire M.I. were watering at the time, and in the gallop to regain their position on the extreme right of the line—facing east—a large number under the Colour-Sergeant were cut off by the enemy, and had to gallop on to General Walter Kitchener's column, the remainder settling down to a hard fight. By 4 p.m., when the Boers were driven off, the following casualties had occurred in that company—No. 5173 Corporal Hunt and No. 5485 Private Gibson killed, 2nd Lieutenant Churchill and No. 5893 Pte. Knight died of wounds, while the following officers with the Derbyshire M.I. were wounded, viz. Lieutenants Meares, Jackson, and Paul, and No. 4869 Sergeant Young, 6163 Lance-Corporal Morris, 5861 Private Morley, 6567 Private Harrison, and 6348 Private Baker, were also wounded, and No. 5034 Private Bingham was reported

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missing. The Boers declined further combat, and the troops marched next day to Driekeuil, arriving on April 2nd, when the Battalion was paraded by General W. Kitchener, and thanked for its most gallant behaviour. (Out of 200 present 115 were killed or wounded, most of the wounded being hit two, three, or four times, while out of 17 officers 8 were killed or wounded.) The Battalion afterwards took part in a "drive" towards the Kimberley-Mafeking Railway, 169 prisoners being taken.

Peace was declared while the Battalion was at Klerksdorp, getting ready for another drive, and it then marched two weeks later to Potchefstroom, 25 miles distant, where it remained until August 15th, when it trekked to Elandsfontein. On August 26th the Battalion was disbanded, having previously sent the Derbyshire M.I. to rejoin the line battalion at Krugersdorp on August 21st.

G. B. L.

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VI

5TH PARTY

THE 5th Party consisted of two sections of the 2nd Battalion, and formed part of the 9th Company of Malta Mounted Infantry, commanded by Captain Loring, Royal Warwick Regiment. The sections were commanded respectively by Lieutenants H. B. T. Hume and H. B. Dixon. This party left Malta on April 25th, 1902, on board the P. and O. *Carthage*, transhipping at Gibraltar to the transport *Wakool*, Lund's Blue Anchor Line—the same ship which carried the 1st Battalion from Capetown to Hongkong—and arriving at Capetown on May 20th, was entrained for Pretoria, which was reached on the 26th. Peace was declared on May 31st, and the company then proceeded to Kroonstadt, to join the 9th M.I., remaining with this Battalion until ordered to join the 1st Battalion of the Regiment for embarkation with it for China.

The letters which follow were contributed to " I'm 95 " by Captain, then Lieutenant, H. B. T. Hume, and are now republished to round off the narrative.

TWEESPRUIT, O.R.C.,

June 10th, 1902.

Let it never be said that men or officers of the 2nd Battalion Derbyshire Regiment forget their old Battalion and comrades, however far they may be away. I will, therefore, try and write some news of our doings for you, Mr. Editor, if you will accept it and put it into " I'm 95," if you consider it of any value.

We sailed from Malta on April 26th, about 10 p.m., on the P. and O. *Carthage*, and had a most pleasant voyage as far as Gibraltar, where we arrived on Wednesday, the 30th, and immediately transferred to H.M.T. *Wakool* for the Cape.

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We sailed again the same day about 5.30 p.m., and settled down to a long, wearisome voyage of eighteen days' duration.

Nothing of any particular interest occurred until we arrived at Las Palmas, Grand Canary, on Saturday, May 3rd, at 7 p.m., where we posted our letters, and sailed again in the evening. I should here mention that there were on board besides ourselves detachments of the Essex, Camerons, Gordons; and Berkshire Regiments.

After leaving Las Palmas we arranged a list of sports for the men; concerts also were got up. I forgot to say that there were about sixty women on board going to the Cape to obtain situations, and they contributed largely to the items of the concerts. One day on board was very like another, so when the day for the sports came round everyone experienced a great relief. The results were not at all bad, and the "Derbies" by no means came off the worst, winning various money prizes given by the officers.

At last the day dawned on which we were due to arrive at the Cape; but when we raised ourselves from our couches, lo and behold! a thick fog enveloped us, and it was feared we should be delayed. However, luck was with us, and at noon the fog lifted, and there lay Table Mountain about ten miles ahead. We dropped anchor about 2.30 p.m., and when the Medical Officer came on board great was the interest shown to find if peace had been proclaimed. This had been the case, too, with every vessel we passed homeward bound, and anxious signals were exchanged always asking the same question, but we were not disappointed in the answer.

We remained at anchor outside the harbour all that night, the 20th, and amused ourselves fishing from the ship's side for mackerel, of which we caught a plentiful supply. On Tuesday morning we went alongside the wharf and disembarked, having received orders to proceed at once to Pretoria by troop train. I must say, before leaving the subject of our journey out, that we were most comfortable on board the *Wakool*, and were all very well looked after, spending a most happy voyage.

We entrained at about 4.30 p.m. in open trucks, and were rather doubtful when we should get any grub. However, we started on our train journey of six days, and after many stops and much jolting arrived at Pretoria on Sunday, the

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OLD COMRADES OF THE 2ND ROYAL GARRISON REGIMENT.

GIBRALTAR, 1902.

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26th, when we detrained and marched to the M.I. Depot to await orders. There information reached us that the company was to be broken up, the Derbyshire section going to the 9th Battalion M.I. at Kroonstadt, where there were about 200 Derby men on M.I. work under Major Tomlin of the 19th.

After sitting at Pretoria for ten days, we proceeded to Kroonstadt by rail, arriving there on Tuesday, June 5th, where we remained in the rest-camp for the night, as we were due to move on to Tweespruit the following Saturday, to join the Derbyshire M.I. Company under Captain Radford.

We drew horses and saddlery on Saturday morning, taking over the Warwick's section of the 1st Malta's thirty-eight horses and twenty-nine sets of saddlery, which were deficient of most of their belongings.

Things did not look hopeful for us, and we feared that we would not remain M.I. for long, but on reaching Tweespruit, eight miles off, circumstances began to look a little more cheerful, and we soon settled down to our work, which at present is . . . nothing !

Captain Radford has transferred his spare horses to us, and we do riding drill for an hour a day, to get the men used to the saddle again . . . and to their steeds.

At present we wonder what is going to happen to us all. We have met many old regimental pals here, who I am sure would wish me to remember them to the Battalion.

We are all disappointed at not getting any fighting, but such is the luck of a soldier !

We of the late 10th Malta M.I. wish the old Regiment the best of luck in its new quarters in England, wherever that may be ; reports say that it is the " Tower," others Shorncliffe, and others again Parkhurst . . . which is true ?

What news I have written leaves us up to date. I will send you some more later on of our further doings.

LADYBRAND, O.R.C.,
July 29th, 1902.

Some time back I wrote of the movements of the 10th Malta M.I. Company up to the time they joined the Derby Company in the 9th Battalion M.I. at Tweespruit Farm,

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O.R.C. I promised to continue to supply some more news, and I will try and see if I can do so now. Before I begin, I will just mention that I am writing about the Derby Company 9th M.I. combined with the 10th Malta M.I., and will refer to them as the Derby Company.

After having settled down at Tweespruit for about a fortnight, rumours got about that we were to move into Kroonstadt, to join the remainder of the Battalion under Major Tomlin, 19th Yorks. Whereupon, having spent a very happy three weeks at Tweespruit, looking after about 2000 cattle, which were dying by dozens from starvation and cold, we received the order on Thursday, June 19th, to leave on Sunday, the 22nd, for Kroonstadt, *en route* for Bloemfontein.

On Friday Lieutenant Wyberg got a week's sick-leave, and so left us, we hoping to meet him at Bloemfontein again shortly. On Sunday, at about 8.30 a.m., we saw the relieving company of M.I. arriving. We moved out of camp about 120 strong, under Captain Radford, reaching Kroonstadt at about 3.30 p.m., and pitched our camp alongside the Munsters and 5th Malta Company of M.I., consisting of about fifty men of the Derbys, also Lancashire Fusiliers, Warwicks, and Loyal North Lancs. We soon settled down, and then the order came round that all the "Time Ex." were to parade on the next day and rejoin the 1st Battalion at Rustenburg, before leaving for England with their "Time Ex." men. This order was received with great pleasure by those who were to go.

Lieutenant Armstrong rejoined us here from hospital that evening.

The next morning, at about 11, the "Time Ex." paraded under Lieutenant Dixon, who had been detailed to take them, and marched down to the station *en route* for Rustenburg. Those who were left behind now settled down to get their saddlery together, and make up as many complete sets as possible out of the forty or fifty spare ones left by the "Time Ex." men. After two hours' hard work all was set straight, and we got ready to move off at about 2 o'clock; this order was, however, cancelled, and we were told we should not leave before Tuesday, the 24th.

The Derby Company now consisted of about sixty N.C.O.'s

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and men, under Captain Radford, with Lieutenants Napier, Armstrong, and myself. The Battalion was still not complete, as the R.I.R. had not joined us, but were to do so at Bloemfontein. Major Tomlin was also on leave at this time.

We left Kroonstadt at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, and after trekking for four days and halting at various places for the night, we arrived at Brandfort on Saturday, at about 12.30 p.m., where, to our surprise, we found Lieutenant Wyberg waiting to rejoin us. We pitched camp at about 1.15, and after stables were free for the day.

To celebrate the Coronation a Gymkhana was got up by the town in the afternoon, and we and the Burmah M.I., who were also quartered here, were allowed to enter for the events, which some of us took advantage of.

We rested all Sunday, and moved off for Glenbay on Monday morning, the 30th, arriving there about 4 p.m., pitched camp for the night, and moved off again next morning at 8.30, having only about fifteen miles to do before getting into Bloemfontein, our final halting-place.

Bloemfontein was reached about 1.30 p.m., Major Tomlin riding out to meet us and point out our camp, which was near the large remount stables, under Gun Hill (?). The R.I.R. here joined the Battalion, which was now complete, for, I believe, the first time since it had been formed.

It was soon rumoured that all our horses had to be handed into the remounts on Thursday, and that we were to draw a fresh lot. This upset both the officers and men of the 1st Derby M.I., as they possessed some very good, hard-working animals, and had had them for some time, but the authorities evidently thought them too good for the " Ikonas," and away they had to go to the remount stables and farms; but the climax came when we saw the new bits of flesh put in the lines. The question went round, What are they? They were supposed to be M.I. cobs, but they were more like stuffed hearth-rugs, stuck up on four thick tree stumps . . . would you believe it . . . they were Russian ponies, suitable enough for getting over snow-covered country like Russia, with their soup-plate patterned hoofs, but not for our job. Well, we had to make the best of it . . . so drowned our sorrows in " the curse of the country."

On Friday we handed in all our ammunition, and so settled

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down to peace soldiering, but had counted our chickens before they had undergone the process of incubation, for on Saturday a rumour spread rapidly that the Basutos were going to rise near Ficksburg, O.R.C., and that evening an order came out that the 9th M.I., with two guns of the 14th R.F.A., were to move out on Sunday morning at 8.30 sharp, via Sanna's Post and Ladybrand to Ficksburg. This was pleasing enough in a way, the thought of a row! Well, Sunday morning arrived, July 6th, 1902. Lieutenant Wyberg had ridden over to the transport lines to redraw our wagons, which he had been ordered to hand in the day before, when here a hitch occurred, and we remained that morning saddled up, ready to move off, but the order was finally cancelled at 3.30, and so we repitched our camp, and prepared for an early rise on Monday. On that morning we paraded at 7.30, and moved out at about 8.30 from Bloemfontein, "with all due military precautions," as our orders stated. We arrived at our first halting-place, Sanna's Post, at about 4.15 p.m., moved off the next morning at 7.30 for Thaba-Nchu, arriving there at 3.15 p.m., moved off again at 7.30 a.m., arriving at Leeuw River Mills at 4.30 p.m., and left on Friday morning at 7.30 for Ladybrand. Our baggage on this march had heavy work crossing the Plaatberg, and we got into Ladybrand at about 4.30 p.m., where we had rather a surprise awaiting us, in the shape of a wire, telling us not to go any further, for, although the Basutos were restless, there was no trouble . . . so for two days we were in a state of unrest, not knowing what our orders were to be, and whether we should have to go back or not. Ladybrand was a jolly sort of place, and we were very happy . . . the 1st Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers also being there. It eventually turned out that we spent five weeks at this town, and during that time we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves with gymkhanas, etc.

At the end of the second week we changed our camp to a more cheerful spot. Major Tomlin had, in the meantime, handed over the command of the Battalion to Captain Radford, as he was going up for his exam. for the Staff College. On Monday, the 29th, Captain Radford left us on leave, and Captain Anley arriving the same day, took over command. During the last week of our stay at Ladybrand the G.O.C. came out and inspected all the troops at Ladybrand, gave

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us an Aldershot Field Day, and then went on to Ficksburg and inspected the 1st Worcesters.

On Monday, August 11th, we heard that the 9th M.I., under the new reconstruction scheme, was to be broken up, and that we were to rejoin the 1st Battalion at Rustenburg, before they left for Hong-Kong. We left Ladybrand Tuesday, the 19th, and arrived back at Bloemfontein on Friday morning, the 22nd, by the same route as we had come, and encamped by the Supply Stores. We then handed over the best of our horses, that had not been handed in before, to the R.I.R. Company, who were to form the new 9th M.I., and who remained at Ladybrand.

I forgot to mention Lieutenant Dixon rejoined after our third week at Ladybrand.

On Saturday some hard work was gone through, preparing everything for handing over, and the disembodiment of the old 9th M.I., the different sprinklings of corps leaving to rejoin their regiments on the Sunday, and following week. The Derby Company entrained for Krugersdorp, where the 1st Battalion was now stationed, on Monday morning, Lieutenant Wyberg remaining behind to hand over the transport. Captain Anley went to Pretoria to hand over the company's accounts, and I, who had received orders to join the new 8th M.I., stayed behind to take the men to Mafeking, and then proceeded to Klerksdorp.

Lieutenant Dixon proceeded home with the last draft of "Time Ex." from the 1st Battalion.

Thus ended the wanderings of the 2nd Derby M.I. and the 5th Malta M.I., and the short travels of the 10th Malta Company of M.I., who landed in South Africa May 21st, 1902, the men of the company leaving with the Battalion on September 8th, for Hong-Kong.

I should like to state that we of the 10th Malta M.I. were very sorry to lose Sergeant Williamson, our Section Sergeant, who went home "Time Ex.," but Sergeant Whitsed ably filled his place.

We wish the men of the 10th Malta M.I. every luck in their new station.

H. B. T. H.

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VII

THE OLDEST SOLDIER OF THE REGIMENT—MAJOR JOHN FITZTHOMAS DENNIS

THE Father of the Regiment is unquestionably Major J. Fitzthomas Dennis, whose photograph is here given, and whose *ninety-fifth* birthday was celebrated on October 23rd last, when he was deeply gratified at the receipt of a congratulatory letter from Colonel Shaw and all ranks of his old regiment. His daughter wrote: "I cannot tell you how grateful he was for your letter; he felt he was not quite forgotten."

Major Dennis joined the 95th Regiment as an ensign, by purchase, on August 4th, 1837, and purchased his lieutenancy on October 30th of the following year, receiving his promotion only a few days after the 95th—then commanded by Lieut.-Colonel James Campbell, K.H.—embarked on H.M. troopship *Jupiter* for conveyance to Ceylon. Major Dennis remembers the arrival in the 95th of the first ram, which was given to the regiment when on passage to Ceylon by the Rajah of Travancore. The ram became very fierce and had to be destroyed, having charged into and upset most of the band during an inspection of the regiment by Major-General Sir Robert Arbuthnot—"for which act of insubordination," writes Major Dennis, "poor Derby (or, if I don't mistake, 'Rajah' was the name he went by) was condemned and shot." Promoted to a company, by purchase, while in Ceylon, Captain Dennis sailed for Hong-Kong with head-quarters in the *Castle Eden*, but while there he suffered terribly from Hong-Kong fever, and was invalided to England, being put on board the *Black Friar*, 500 tons, in an almost dying condition, and being tended on the voyage home by Private Robert Stone, of the Light Company. Captain Dennis eventually rejoined the regiment, long before he had thoroughly

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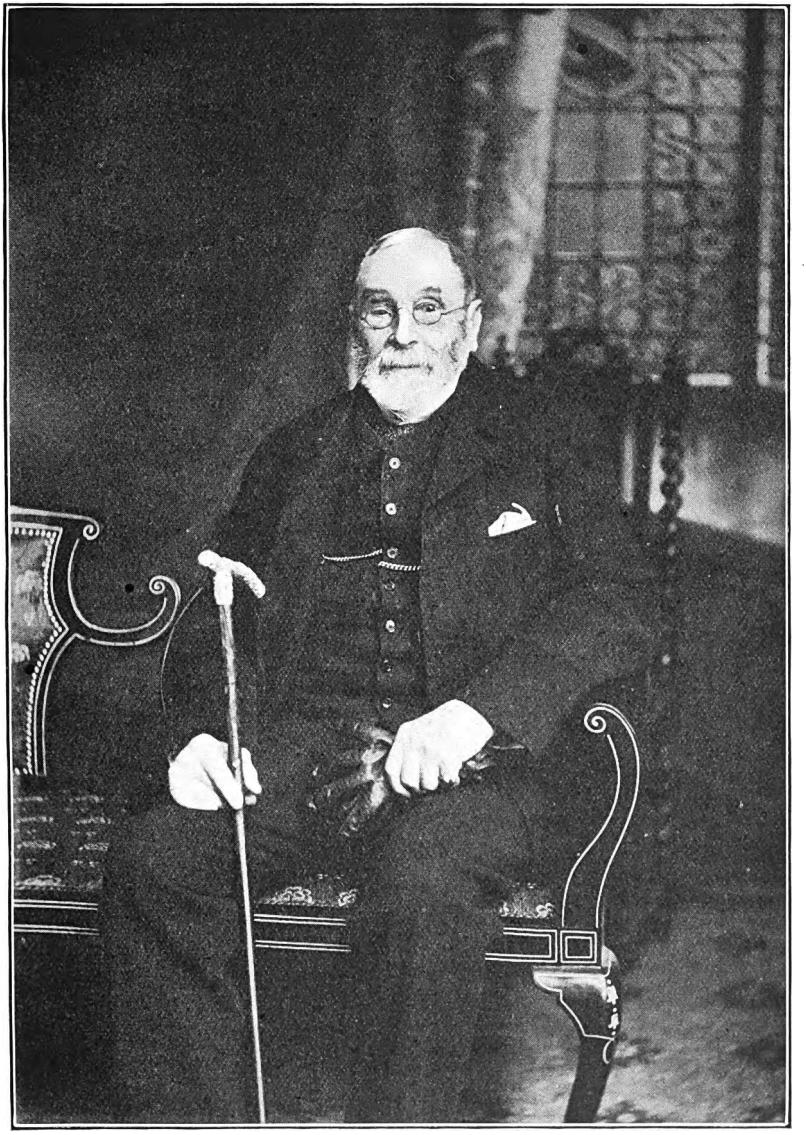

MAJOR J. FITZ T. DENNIS.
LATE 95TH REGIMENT.

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recovered his health, at Winchester. When, in March, 1854, the 95th embarked for Turkey, Captains Dennis and Minnit, Lieutenant Martin, and Ensigns Probart and Brooke proceeded with the Depot companies to Northampton, but Major Dennis—he had been promoted to field rank on December 29th, 1854—rejoined head-quarters before Sebastopol on February 18th, 1855, and served to the end of the siege, being awarded the Crimean medal with clasp (Sebastopol), the 5th class of the Medjidie and the Turkish medal. In June, 1857, Major Dennis went on half-pay, and did not again rejoin.

So far as we have been able to trace them, the following five officers are the only survivors of those who served in the Crimea with the 95th: Major Dennis, Major-General Davidson-Smith, Colonel Knatchbull, Captain Fisher, and Colonel Fleming.

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VIII

1ST BATTALION NOTES

LAST year my predecessor, in the art of making Regimental History, opened his notes with "The battalion has passed a very uneventful year." As it is generally agreed that the importance of passing events is merely a matter of opinion, I feel no qualms in flatly contradicting this assertion as a suitable beginning for this year's record.

It is true that there has been no great war or simmering mutiny, but nevertheless, since last December, there has always been something doing.

At the beginning of December, 1909, the Viceroy came to Bangalore, and during his stay we supplied an Officers' Guard over the Residency.

At the end of the month we left for Secunderabad.

Our journey is worthy of being briefly described, as it was typical of Indian "Bundobust." The battalion left Bangalore in four different trains on two different days, and arrived in Secunderabad in two trains on two days. During the journey of about 400 miles two trains but no days were lost. The scheme was evolved from the fertile brain of Captain Foster, who was then Station Staff Officer at Bangalore. I don't quite know how it was all done, but we spent two and a half days on the way. They were not exactly cheerful days, but anyone who has the hunter's instinct can always amuse himself in an Indian railway carriage, by trying to catch things inadvertently left behind by previous oriental passengers.

Colonel Wolley Dod arrived with the first party, and was met at the station by Colonel Watts, our late C.O., who is now General Staff Officer of the 9th Division.

Major Bosanquet, with the remainder of the battalion, arrived the following day, December 19th.

The weather was delightfully cool, and we marched up to

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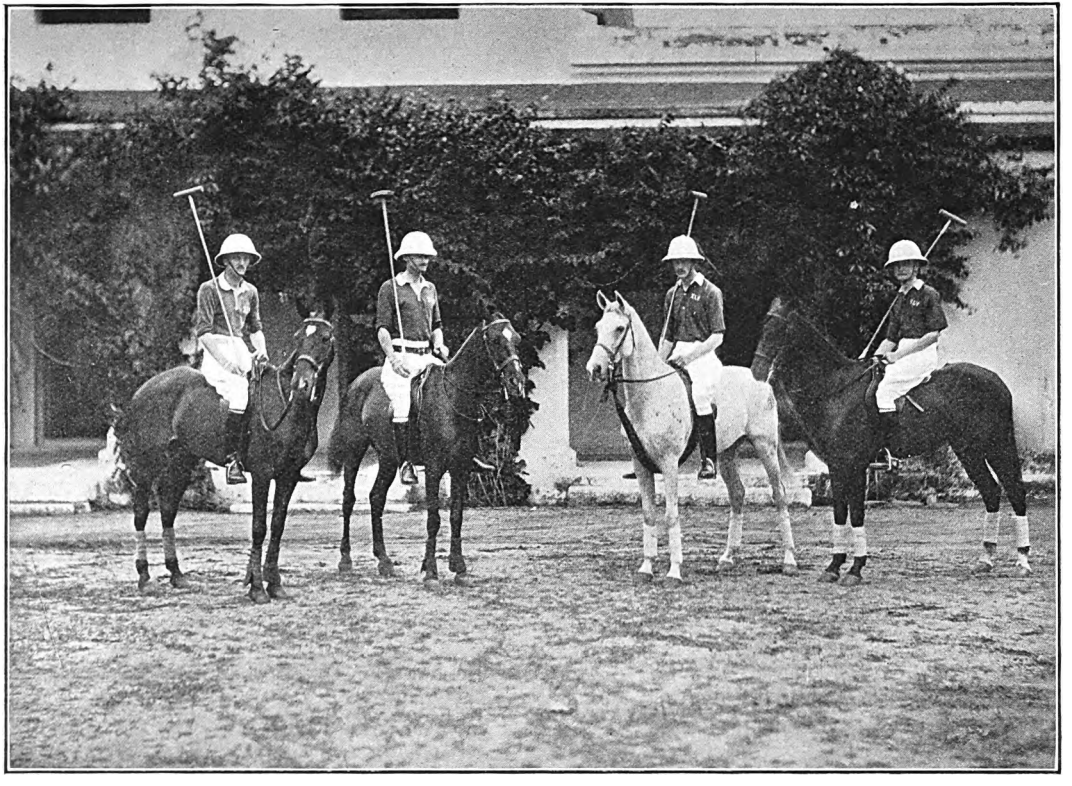

1ST BTN. POLO TEAM.

RUNNERS-UP SECUNDERABAD NOVICES' TOURNAMENT, 1910.

Capt. Milward (back), Capt. Becke (3), Lieut. Earle (2), Lieut. Brownrigg (1).

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our lines at Trimulgherry wondering when and where the Secunderbad hot weather came in. We found out in good time.

Our lines are scattered, but not at all bad. The officers' bungalows are rather small, but comfortable, and the blocks of quarters for subalterns and unmarried captains are quite good.

Before we could make a pretence at settling down, the divisional manœuvres loomed up, and early in January we marched out of barracks nearly a thousand strong, on a cold and misty morning. Manœuvres only lasted five days, but a very strenuous five days they were. The days were hot, and the nights bitterly cold. The horrors and realism of war were carried so far, that, on a certain night, two tired, hungry officers doubled up in one valise on a defensive post on a river line, whilst at another the C.O., Adjutant, and two other officers shared the dinner of one between them. This was not a display of generosity by the "one" concerned, it was the result of a combination of circumstances, which included the following facts: The "one" was in a distinct minority, the others were hungry, and the "one's" food represented all that could be expected before morning! On return to barracks, we got a chance of settling down.

In February, Major Bosanquet and Captain Wilkin went on nine months' leave, most of which time the latter spent in big-game shooting in Africa. He went alone, so we have to believe him. In the same month Lieutenant Brownrigg was appointed Adjutant.

March produced a good deal of subject matter. Most important, perhaps, was the commencement of the new musketry course, and the expressions of opinion it produced.

Half the battalion had fired Parts 1 and 2 before that most gracious message was received, that men could count their preceding year's classification for the purpose of assessing their pay. The day of receipt of that message was an expensive one in the canteen. The loss of "Crossed Rifles" on the arm was a trivial affair when ex-marksmen realised their pay was safe for one more year.

Captain Becke and Lieutenant Maxwell went to Wellington with about 120 of all ranks. Wellington is the hill station for Secunderabad, and regiments are ordered to send sick men, or those requiring change of air, to the hills each year. So far so good; but this humane system loses some

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of its charm when the numbers to be sent are made up irrespective of numbers requiring change. The barracks at Wellington must be filled; therefore, if a regiment is particularly healthy—and we were such a one—the numbers of the sick men must be increased by hale and hearty men, who do not want to go, and who invariably return looking positive wrecks compared with their comrades, who have braved the rigours of the hot weather in the plains, and taken healthy exercise. Captain Morley, a month later, relieved Captain Becke. The latter on his return journey travelled down the Ghats on a motor-bicycle as far as Bangalore.

In April, Lieutenants Douglas and Simpson took two sections to Poona for a Mounted Infantry course, lasting four months. The behaviour of these two sections was excellent, and elicited a special letter from the officer commanding their M.I. Company to the C.O. The officers seemed to have had a splendid time, with hunting and polo galore.

Colonel Wolley Dod also went to Poona this month, as Officiating General Staff Officer to the 6th Division. Major Rigby being on privilege leave at the time, Captain Poyntz commanded the battalion for about six weeks. The latter on Major Rigby's return officiated as General Staff Officer, Secunderabad, for a short time. On April 6th the anniversary of Badajos was celebrated by trooping the old Colours in the morning, and sports in the afternoon. The hot weather had started during the first week in March, and April 6th was a piping hot day. Despite the heat, all Secunderabad turned up to the sports in the afternoon, including the Resident, Sir Charles Bayley, and Major General Kenyon Slaney, who was then our Brigade Commander. A great deal is said about the hot weather, and the impossibility of going out until very late in the afternoon. It certainly was very hot from March to June, and for some time the thermometer at Secunderabad stood at a maximum of 113 in the shade. But still people do go out. Given a regimental "At Home," with plenty of cakes, chocolates, Marrons Glacés, and liqueurs, it is astonishing how many ladies can and do risk the hot afternoons to watch sports, polo, and hockey!

This month also saw the departure of Captain Manby to Vizagapatam, to officiate as Adjutant to the Volunteers there for seven months.

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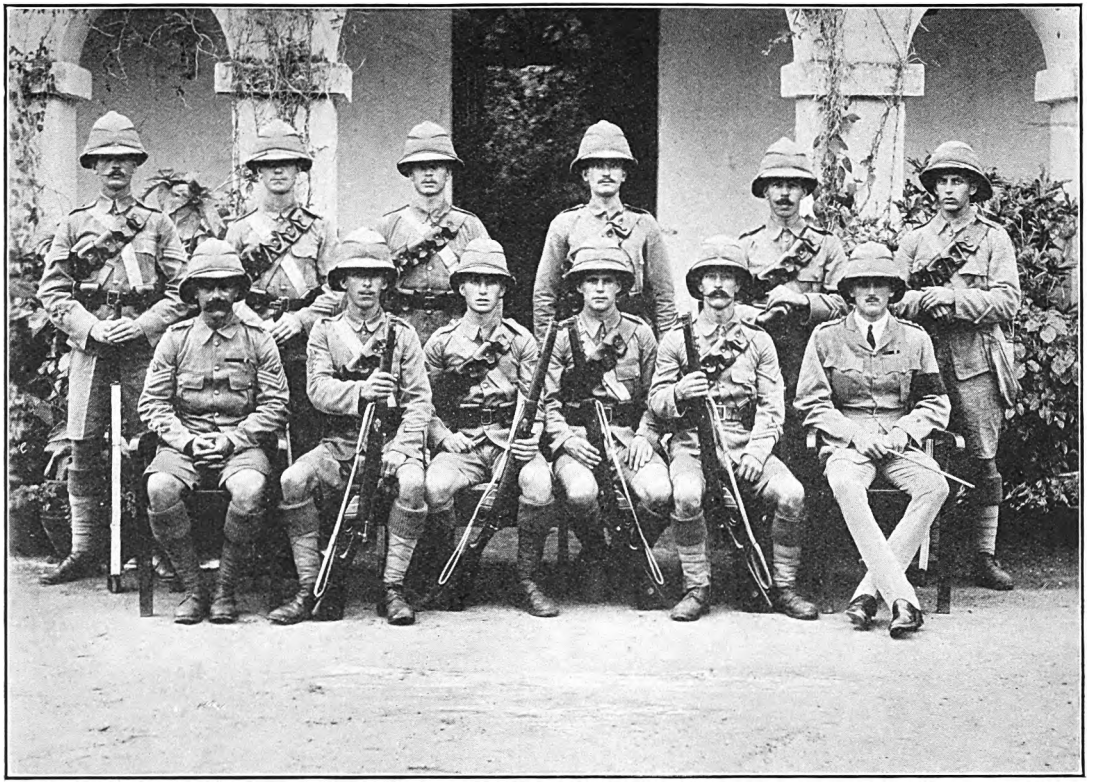

G Co. 1ST BTN.

WINNERS OF MARATHON RACE.

Sergt. Martin, Pte. Sawyer, Pte. Savage, Pte. Riley, Pte. Guadin, Pte. Underwood,
Cr.-Sgt. Clements, Pte. Roberts, Pte. Simpson, Pte. Jefferies, Capt. Milward.

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At the beginning of May, we heard the sad news of the late King Edward's death, which seemed to cast a gloom all round. A few days later, the proclamation of King George the Fifth, as Emperor of India, was read from the steps of the Residency at Hyderabad. All officers in the garrison and detachments from corps attended. In May, Mr. Dewsall received the "Long Service and Good Conduct" medal. Sergeant Watson and Private Blackrock also received this coveted honour during the year.

In June, company training commenced. Space prohibits any accounts of this pastime. Our lines are right out in the country, so companies worked from barracks instead of going into camp, as they had to do in Bangalore, where the barracks were situated in the middle of the town.

At the end of the month, Captain Hart left to join the Egyptian Army.

One of the features of the hot weather in 1910 was the brilliancy of Halley's comet. In the first days of its appearance, some enthusiasts were even known to disturb their night's rest in order to rise and look at it. It made a splendid subject of conversation at dull dinner parties, when conversation flagged, or the subject had to be hurriedly changed on account of some well-meaning imbecile making an impossible remark. At the beginning of July the first heavy rains broke, and brought relief. Company training and musketry continued until October, when the battalion moved out to the Battalion Training Camp for three weeks. Major Rigby was in command. The weather was bad and rainy, but the time spent in camp was enjoyed by everyone —even by those married. Hard work all the morning, climbing mountains and wading rivers; and every kind of sport in the afternoon, from playing polo and football on a ploughed field, to aquatic sports in a tank full of snakes. It was a great time, and we were all really sorry when it was over.

Field firing was carried out in a very practical way, but no one was shot. The proper use of covering fire was impressed on all ranks, and the infinitesimally small chance of accidents, if proper control was exercised, was very well shown. The results were excellent, and method of conducting the practices most realistic. The country was made for it—real obsolete

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combined-training sort of country, with colossal hills to act as stop butts.

A short stay of five days in barracks was followed by brigade training. We had changed from the 1st to the 2nd Infantry Brigade, under a new scheme, in October. Our new Brigade Commander is Colonel Rodwell.

Brigade training is of course highly instructive for the higher ranks, but for the junior regimental officer and the rank and file large " paper " forces of divisions, etc., do not convey the same impression or raise the same enthusiasm as a good straightforward field day during battalion training, where a man is a man, and not a brigade of artillery because he happens to be carrying a blue flag, which as likely as not is lying on the ground while he lights his pipe.

The nights were very cold, and that night when we bivouacked out in nothing but our thin khaki and a great coat, will live long in the memory of everyone who experienced it. It may not have been so very cold, but the contrast to what we had so recently been accustomed to was the real trouble.

By the end of November all the officers who had been on leave or on officiating billets returned, and 2nd Lieutenants Chambers and Mills were posted to the battalion. 2nd Lieutenants Stranger and Goodwyn had joined at the end of September.

During the hot weather, at times there were only eight officers in mess, but by the end of November there were about seventeen. The epidemic of marriage has robbed the mess of its fair numbers. At present every quarter is full, so the next officer contemplating matrimony will have to look for sticks and build a nest.

The range accommodation has been so limited, that up to the present we have been able to hold no rifle meeting, but we hope to do so towards the end of January.

So much has been done in the way of sport during the past year, that the only possible way of making it intelligible is to tabulate it briefly, giving each form of sport a paragraph to itself. The institution of the Athletic Shield events by Colonel Wolley Dod is now showing results. By this means every man in the battalion has to do something for his company. No longer do twenty-two men play football with five times their number criticising and saying how it *should* be done.

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1ST BTN. HOCKEY TEAM.

WINNERS OF BANGALORE CUP, 1910.

Pte. Nason, Pte. Morris, Pte. Startin, Pte. Shilcock,
Pte. Harrison, Lt. Wyncoll, Capt. Becke, Pte. Duncan, Pte. Bowen,
Pte. Barker, Pte. Walker.

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In the Athletic Shield every man must "have a try." And what has been the result? The result has been that the battalion has reached a higher standard of all-round athleticism than ever before, and the general health and condition is as good as if not better than any regiment's in India.

Aquatics

The Annual Aquatic Sports were held in October. The Rigby Cup was won by G Company, who were runners-up last year. A Company were a good second. These sports owe their origin to Major Rigby, and have resulted in the battalion possessing very few non-swimmers. A non-swimmer is now a rarity, a creature to be pitied. Major Rigby, this year, organised for the first time inter-company water polo. The Band and Drums entered separate teams.

G Company again proved successful, beating the Band in the final.

The play was really good, but as this form of sport is only indulged in by the battalion, no outside matches could be arranged. There is no doubt we could produce a first-class team of seven. A match was played—seven a side—between the Officers and Sergeants. The Officers won by nine goals to five, but in fairness to the Sergeants it must be acknowledged that the referee was a corporal, whose Company Commander was off-side most of the game and scored several goals. At any rate, this is what the Sergeants say. The Officers state the reason of their victory was sheer dash. Perhaps it was; anyhow, they won.

Assault-at-Arms

A garrison Assault-at-Arms was held in September. We won the cup for the "Best Infantry Regiment" easily. The chief features from our point of view were, in the first place, the magnificent victory of E Company in the final of the inter-section tug-of-war, when they pulled over a team from the Cheshires nearly a stone per man heavier; and secondly, the fine running of teams from G, D, and C Companies in the Marching Order Marathon race. G, D, and C Companies' teams arrived intact at the winning post before a single competitor of another corps appeared in sight, and what is more, they finished as fresh as daisies.

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I don't wish to disparage other fine efforts, but these two stood out above the rest as tests of training and stamina, which it would be hard to beat. The following were the events at the Assault-at-Arms, and at the athletic meeting, which ran concurrently with it :—

Company tug-of-war, won by E Company 1st S.F.

Gymnastic competition, won by 1st S.F.

Bayonet *v.* Bayonet (Instructors), won by Cheshire Regt.

Marathon race (Coy. teams of ten), dress Marching Order, with 100 rounds ammunition, won by G Coy. 1st S.F.; 2nd, D Coy. 1st S.F.; 3rd, C Coy. 1st S.F.

Bayonet team combat (Coy. teams), won by H Coy. 1st S.F.; 2nd, A Coy. 1st S.F.

Bayonet team combat, for men with less than three years' service, won by Cheshire Regt.; 2nd, D Coy. 1st S.F.

Bayonet *v.* Bayonet (Non-Instructors), won by Cheshire Regt.; 2nd, Colour-Sergeant Turton, 1st S.F.

100 yards open, won by R.F.A.; 2nd, Private Fletcher, 1st S.F.; 3rd, Private Coomber, 1st S.F.

Relay race, won by A team, 1st S.F.

Cross country (five prizes), 4th, Private Miller, 1st S.F.; 5th, Private Roberts, 1st S.F.

Half-mile, won by Cheshire Regt.; 3rd, Private Wells, 1st S.F.

Athletics

The Athletic Shield events were so successfully negotiated by the majority of the battalion last year, that the standards required in each test were raised this year. Two days each month were set aside for competing, and each man who reached the required standard in any event scored one point to his company aggregate. The company obtaining the most points was adjudged winner of the Shield.

The standards were :—

High jump	4 ft. 4 in.
Long jump	15 ft.
100 yards	12 sec.
Quarter-mile	70 sec.
Half-mile in marching order	3 min. 50 sec.
Mile	6 min.
5 miles cross-country	46 min.

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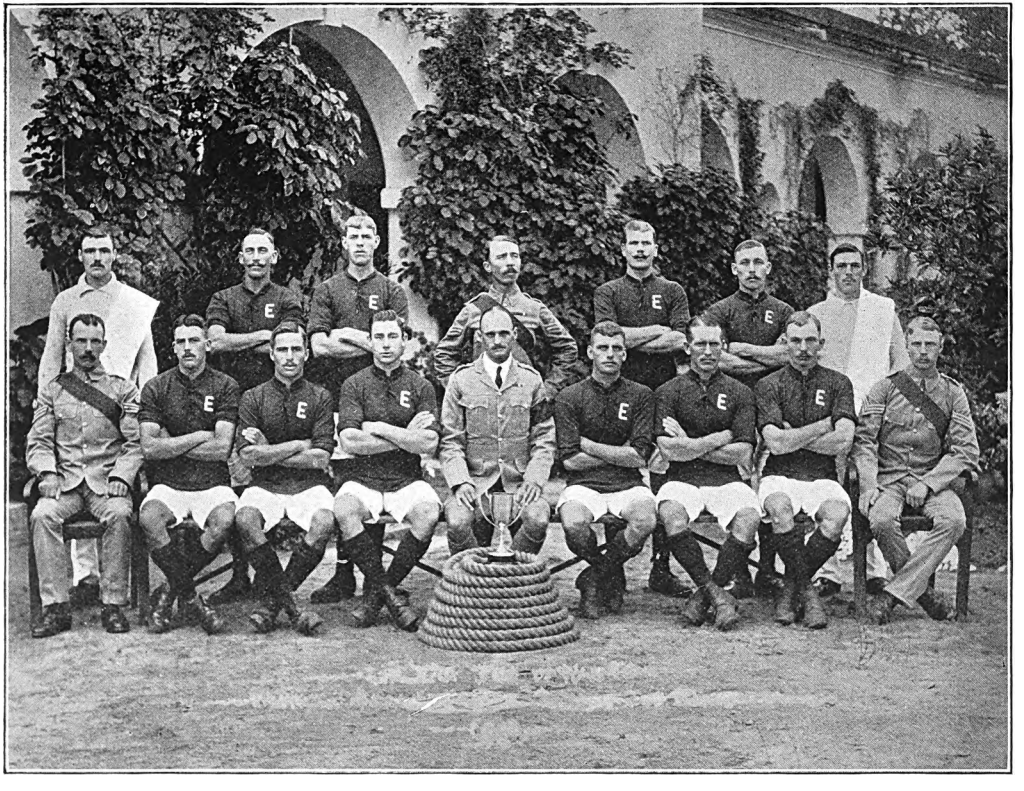

E Co. 1ST BTN. TUG-OF-WAR TEAM.

Pte. Yoemans, Pte. Moran, Pte. Moss, Sgt. Lowndes, Pte. Marston, Pte. Oscroft, Pte. Grant,
Cr.-Sgt. Wells, Pte. Pettifer, Pte. Harden, Lce.-Corp. Dunn, Capt Becke, Pte. Hulett, Pte Bird, Pte. Dove, Sgt. Brearley.

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In the cross-country race there were 825 competitors. Privates Wilkinson and Walker, both of E Company, were first and second men in. 528 men came in in the required time. G Company won the C.O.'s prize for the company with most men who finished in time. G Company got eighty-three out of 101 starters to finish in under 46 minutes. G Company at present seem "sitters" for the Athletic Shield, but these notes must leave before the result can be decided. B Company, last year's champions, seem likely to be content with a humble place low down in the list. G Company's points at the end of the eleventh month are 740—a very fine record. The events which caused most trouble to competitors were the mile and the high jump, less than a quarter of the competitors qualifying, whereas in the remaining events over 50 per cent were successful. The great relay race of ten miles was also won by G Company. Each company turned out at full strength, and ran in relays round a triangular course. The only condition was that a piece of paper had to be started at one corner of the triangle, and returned to the same place initialled by two officers, who were posted at the other two corners. The time of the winning team, 117 strong, was 40 minutes—a remarkably fine time.

A match was arranged between G Company and A Squadron of the 13th Hussars (mounted). Unfortunately it did not come off. In all probability the mounted men would have won, but it would have been a good match, as the course was not especially suitable for cavalry in places.

Cricket

Cricket for some years has not flourished in the battalion, but on paper this season we certainly had the best side for the last six years, and we *did* better. We have a really first-class ground in our lines. Three good recruits in Messrs. Earle, Happell, and Dobbie joined us this year, but no real recruit from other ranks. The evergreen Buyford trundles away as well as ever, and Lance-Corporal Hardy has improved much as an all-round cricketer.

We played two matches against the Cheshire Regiment, losing one badly, and winning the other after a most exciting finish by one wicket. Mr. Dobbie and Private Cheney, who

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put on fifty for the last wicket, were mainly responsible for the victory. We won the greater portion of other outside matches.

At present we have won our first round in the Minister's Cup competition, beating a fairly useful team by a large margin. We meet the Cheshire Regiment in the next round.

F Company won the inter-company Cricket Shield, defeating G Company after one of the best games in inter-company cricket that have been seen for a long time. Yes, cricket has distinctly looked up this year, and the click of the bat at the net in the evening during the hot weather is nearly always to be heard. May we go still better next year.

Boxing

There have been so many tournaments in which men of the battalion have been engaged since we arrived here, that the very shortest summary must suffice.

9th Division Tournament.—Only a few entries from the regiment. Private O'Dowd won the Feather Weight championship and belt.

13th Hussars Tournament.—Private O'Dowd beat Private Munday, 13th Hussars, in a six-round contest. Private White, having beaten the 13th Hussars crack middle weight, succumbed to S. S. Bassington, 13th Hussars, in the final, after a magnificent fight. White led on points in the first two rounds, but got a cut over the eye in the last round, the blood from which completely put him off.

Regimental Novices Tournament.—This was a purely regimental tournament, to try and discover new blood. There were no outside entries and sixty-two from the battalion. It was a very successful meeting, and several promising novices came to the fore.

E Company won the C.O.'s Cup, presented for the company obtaining the most points. Private Taylor, B Company, showed promise of becoming a good straight hitter.

Cheshire's Regimental Tournament.—Private O'Dowd won the Feather Weight, and Private Taylor the Novices 10st. 7lbs. competitions. Private Richards reached the final of the Novices 9st. 7lbs., and Private Dunn reached the final of the Middle Weights.

Annual Regimental Open Tournament.—A cup was pre-

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1ST BTN. FOOTBALL ELEVEN.

WINNERS OF 5TH SECUNDERABAD DIVISION FOOTBALL CUP, 1909 AND 1910.

Pte. Moss, Corp. Marsden, Pte. Doncaster,
S.M. Randall, Lce.-Corp. Smith, Lce.-Corp. Sibthorpe, Lce.-Corp. Orange, Sgt. Peterkin,
Corp. Millington, Pte. Stevenson, Pte. Walker, Pte. Chesterton, Pte. Withers.

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sented for the best regiment, and this we kept for ourselves, by a handsome margin, although, as was pointed out in the regimental paper, the 124 entries from the battalion alone practically precluded anyone else from having a chance for the cup. The system was one point for a win, and two for a win in a final, boys' competitions to count half. B Company won the cup, presented by that most generous paper, " The Old Stubborns." The cup for the best regiment was presented by the officers of the battalion. Private O'Dowd won the Feather Weights, Private Taylor won the Light Weights, Private Thorpe won the Novices 10st. 7lbs., and both O'Dowd and Taylor won six-round contests during the tournament. From a sporting point of view, it was a great success, but financially it was a failure owing to the lamentable weather, which night after night stopped the fighting.

Football

The popularity of football does not wane, although its rival, hockey, has made great strides towards popular favour. In the Madras Football Tournament, we had to hand the cup, which we won last year, back to the Leicester Regiment. In the 9th Division Tournament we were victors for the second year in succession. This year there were two inter-company leagues, for first and second elevens. G Company won both.

In this station there are but few outside competitions for company or squadron teams, such as were found at Bangalore.

In the Nizam's College Shield, B Company reached the final, and then lost to A Squadron 13th Hussars, after a good game. An amusing game was played on the parade ground, between Nottingham and Derby men; the numbers were unlimited, and the goals twenty yards wide and about 800 yards apart. To add to the interest of the game, a small tank formed part of the playing area, and a large portion of the play took place in it. Owing to the preponderance of numbers, the Notts men won by one goal to love.

Hockey

The popularity of hockey is undoubtedly on the increase. A year or so ago, one might have seen a few enthusiasts

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wielding sticks, but certainly no onlookers. Now the benches round the hockey ground are usually occupied by critics.

We opened the hockey year badly by losing to a combined team from the 61st Pioneers and 96th Berar Infantry. In this match Mr. Dawes, who last year was such a tower of strength in our forward line, was arrayed against us in the ranks of the Pioneers. The team then journeyed to Madras, as holders of the Madras Cup. This they handed over, being beaten by the Bangalore Volunteers in the first round.

Things now looked dark in the hockey world, but undismayed, Captain Becke and his merry men journeyed to Bangalore, and succeeded in bringing back the Bangalore Cup. The curious thing is that when at Bangalore we could never get it.

In the inter-company league H Company were victorious. H and D Companies have always been the best teams, but D have always just won. This year the tables were turned. In the Church of England Institute Cup, for company teams from the garrison, H Company were successful, beating H Company of the Cheshire Regiment in the final.

Perhaps, on the whole, it has not been a particularly bright year for hockey, but the trouble is men do not stay for ever, and last year the team lost some of its best players without finding new blood to take their place. Nevertheless, when one remembers that four years ago there was scarcely a hockey stick in the regiment, Captain Becke and the pioneers of the game deserve nothing but praise.

Tug-of-war

In this sport the ex-champions, H Company, went under to E. The pulling of E was wonderful. They were, comparatively speaking, a light team, and yet not only did they beat H Company, who always put in a heavy team, but they also won the famous victory in the Assault-at-Arms against the spot team of the Cheshire Regiment. They were beautifully trained, and the coaching of Sergeant Brealy was a model of what it should be.

Polo

For the first time this game can be mentioned in the "Annual." There were only two local tournaments last year,

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H Co. 1ST BTN. HOCKEY TEAM.

Pte. Nason, Pte. Billyard, Pte. Kirk, Lce.-Corp. Rutherford,
Lt. Collin, Pte. Rollett, Pte. Walker, Pte. Newbold, Cr.-Sgt. Turton,
Pte. Fell, Pte. Withers, Pte. Bowen, Pte. Harrison, Pte. Stubbs.

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and the same team from the regiment, Captains Milward and Becke and Messrs. Brownrigg and Earle, entered for both. The first tournament was the Secunderabad Novices, for which there were six entries. In the first round we beat the 13th Hussars by three goals to one. In the second round we defeated the 29th Lancers by two goals to one. In the final we met the gunners, and when the bugle sounded at the end of the last chucker, the score stood one all. Extra time with widened goals was given. Unfortunately the ball had to be brought into play from behind our back line, and we could never get it away from our own goal, the gunners scoring the winning points in about three minutes.

In the Secunderabad Junior we had the misfortune to meet the Futteh Maidan team. This team contained two of the Regular Golconda team, who have only once been beaten, and gave us a bad beating by seven goals to one. Our one consolation is that this team eventually won the tournament with ease, our one goal being the only point scored against them all through.

This year we have held our own as an all-round sporting battalion. Our last draft from home are typical of the "deep-chested Midlanders," and are certain to keep up the good records of the past year. One great incentive towards sport in general has been that flourishing paper "The Old Stubborns." Each month an accurate record of all sport can be found in its pages, and the Editor is constantly dipping his hand into his editorial pocket in the aid of sport. It has a wide circulation, but not wide enough. The paper is written for all, not only for this battalion. It should form another link between the present and the past, and we will hope for a wider circulation next year amongst those who have left us.

Before I close, G Company deserve a word of special praise. I have no statistics at hand, so am open to correction, but I do not think any company has won so many cups in one year as G Company have in 1910: Rigby Cup, Water Polo, 1st and 2nd eleven football leagues, C.O.'s Cross-country Race Cup, first in Marathon Race at Assault-at-Arms, Relay Race, and unless the most unexpected happens, they are sure to win the Athletic Shield. A record to be proud of.

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IX

2ND BATTALION NOTES

OUR notes for the third " Regimental Annual " are penned from our new station, Crownhill, Plymouth. Early in the year " Dame Rumour " had given forth that we were to move at the end of the year from Fermoy to—various likely and unlikely places ; but anxiety as to our destination was set at rest on the appearance of Army Orders for February, when it was seen that we were to go to Plymouth, and here we arrived on September 27th, for the first time in the itinerary of the battalion, which now extends over a period of eighty-seven years, twenty-eight of which have been spent in the United Kingdom.

The battalion left Fermoy on September 26th in two parties for Cork, and embarked in the City of Cork Steam Packet Company's s.s. *Innisfallen.* It rained very heavily when the first party, under Major Roy, with the families, entrained, but happily the weather cleared by the time the head-quarters party, under Colonel F. C. Shaw, moved off. The band of our close comrades for the past six years, the 2nd Battalion Durham Light Infantry, played the head-quarters party to the railway station, where a host of friends had congregated to say " good-bye " and " au revoir."

On arrival at Cork it was found that our eighty tons of baggage, a miscellaneous assortment of kit difficult to deal with at any time, instead of being within man-handling reach of the ship, was some distance away, and it became a serious problem as to whether it would be possible to get it on board by the time the *Innisfallen* was due to sail. However, the first party set to work, and assisted by the second party, managed by strenuous labour to stow it away in time. The crossing, which took about seventeen hours, was rough and uncomfortable, and everybody was glad when the ship steamed into Plymouth Sound.

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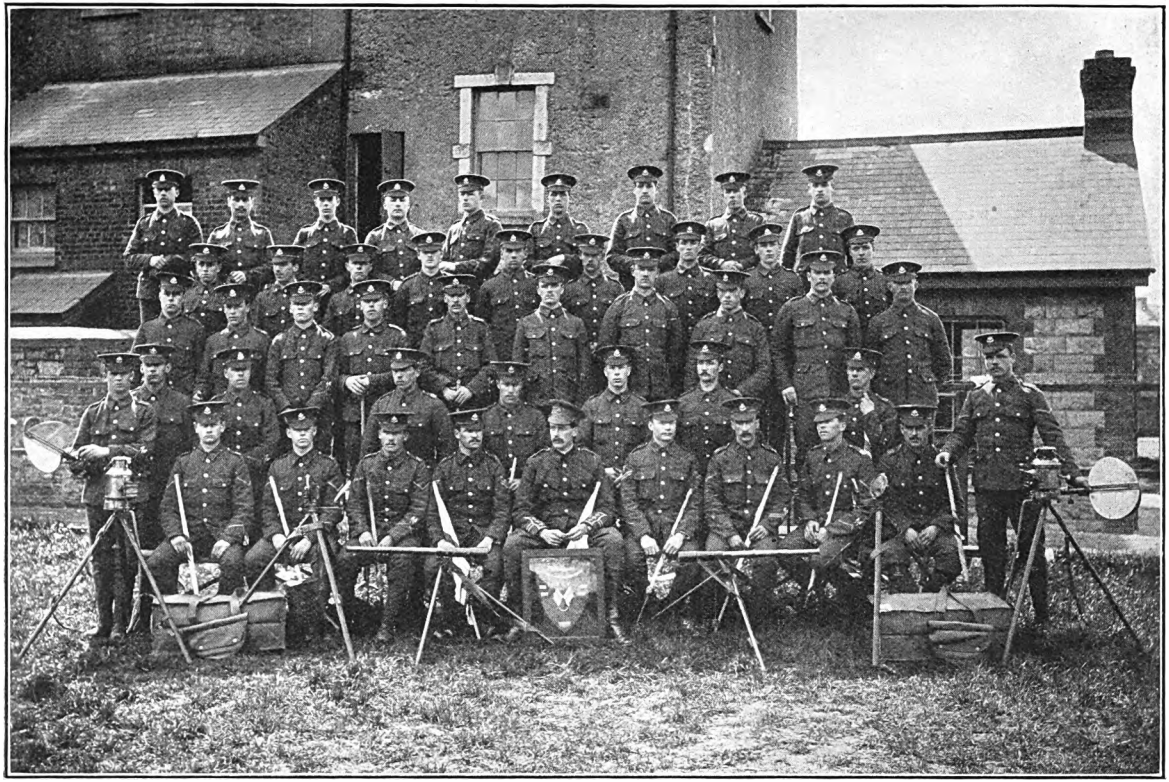

2ND BTN.
SIGNALLERS.

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The bands of the R.G.A., R.M.L.I., South Staffordshire, and Leinster Regiments played us to our new quarters, which are about three and a half miles from Millbay Docks.

Crownhill, as far as accommodation goes, is a great improvement on the stations we had in Ireland. Here we have permanent barracks for four companies and the band, with a modern officers' mess and recreation and reading-rooms for the men. The latter have been redecorated and furnished, and are as comfortable and inviting as it is possible to make them. Two billiard-tables have been provided and are fully occupied during the men's leisure hours.

The remainder of the battalion is quartered in Crownhill Fort and Hutments, which are quite near to the barracks.

We are now looking forward to strenuous times at Willsworthy, on Dartmoor, and our old training ground of 1903 and 1904—Salisbury Plain.

Training

Company training, preceded by the usual training of N.C.O.'s, commenced on March 1st, and the annual course of musketry was again carried out by half-battalions at Kilworth Camp in May and June. On June 24th the battalion was concentrated at Fermoy for battalion training.

Company marches were carried out from June 28th to 30th, company commanders arranging their own schemes.

On August 22nd brigade training commenced, and we were due to move into camp at Moore Park. The weather, however, was so bad that although camp had been pitched, the move was postponed till September 1st. In the meantime the training was carried out by the battalion from barracks, and the long marches, out and in, combined with the manœuvring and the inevitable wetting, will no doubt long be remembered by those who took part in them.

Divisional training commenced on September 5th, and on the 8th we moved via Clogheen to Clonmel, where the 6th Division concentrated for the manœuvres which were carried out from September 12th to 16th in the vicinity of Kilkenny. The C.O. and Colonel Marshall were employed as umpires during the divisional training and manœuvres, and Major Roy was in command.

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On September 17th the battalion returned to Fermoy, marching from Graiguenamanagh to Waterford, twenty-seven miles, in great form, and entraining there for Fermoy in a special train at our own expense, in order to save a three days' trek, and allow more time for packing up, the date for our move to Plymouth being so near.

Letter E Company (Captain R. S. Popham's, D.S.O.) was successful in the battalion competition for the best company to take part in the All Ireland Company Challenge Cup Competition.

Drafts

Colour-Sergeant Chambers, who won the Distinguished Conduct Medal at Moedwil, and who had been with us for six years, and sixty men embarked at Southampton on the h. t. *Dongola* on September 20th, to join the 1st Battalion at Secunderabad.

Detachments

The Mounted Infantry Section, under Lieutenant R. B. Young, rejoined from Longmoor on February 2nd, and the following battalion order was issued :—

" The Commanding Officer has great pleasure in notifying to the battalion the very satisfactory report which he has received of the conduct of the Mounted Infantry Section which rejoined yesterday from Longmoor. The whole section has qualified in mounted infantry duties, and their conduct is reported as excellent."

Another section, under Lieutenant G. D. Edwards, proceeded to Longmoor for training on October 4th.

Inspections

Brigadier-General F. C. Carter, C.B., commanding 16th Infantry Brigade, inspected the battalion in barracks on July 2nd, and in the field on August 1st.

Major-General W. P. Pulteney, C.B., D.S.O., commanding 6th Division, inspected the battalion on September 22nd, and in bidding us farewell, made some flattering remarks on the conduct of the battalion during the time it had been under his command, both in the 16th Infantry Brigade and the 6th Division.

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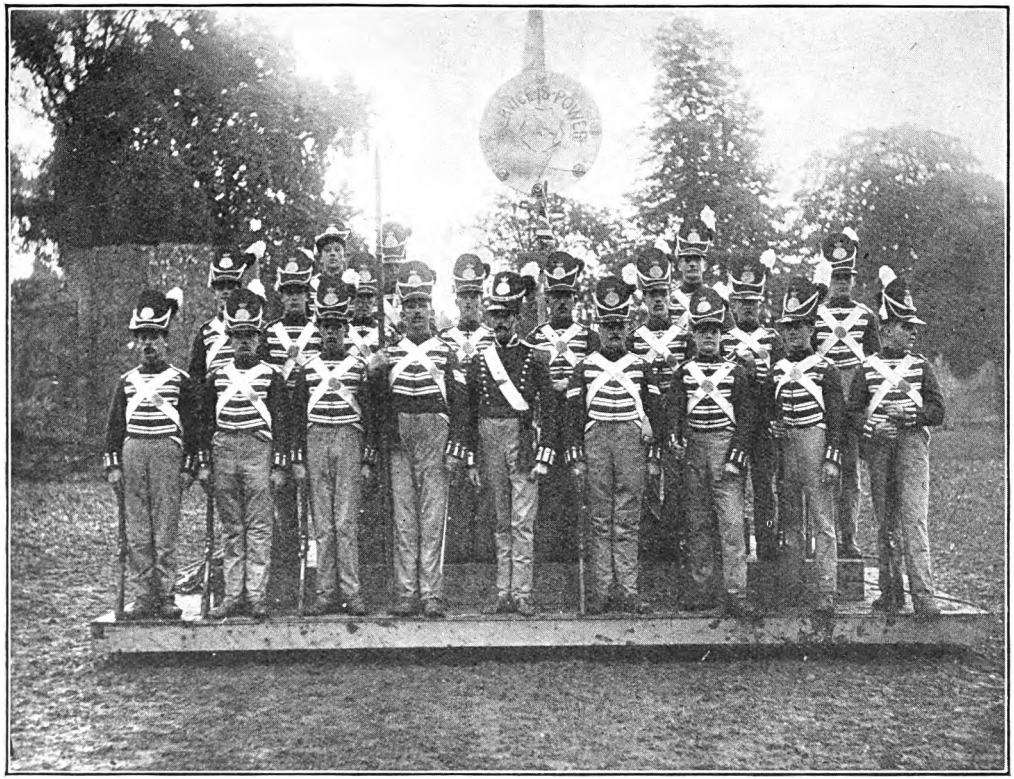

ARMY PAGEANT, 1910.

DETACHMENT FROM 2ND BTN. REPRESENTING 45TH REGT. AT BADAJOS.

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Brigadier-General E. R. C. Graham, C.B., commanding 8th Infantry Brigade, inspected the battalion on arrival at Plymouth, September 28th, 1910.

Major-General Sir H. S. Rawlinson, Bart., C.V.O., C.B., commanding the 3rd Division, inspected the barracks and institutes of the battalion on December 15th, 1910.

Accession of King George V

On May 13th the battalion furnished a Guard of Honour of 100 sergeants and rank and file and the band and drums, under command of Captain B. F. Burnett-Hitchcock, with Lieutenants J. L. G. Carter and R. B. Young, the latter carrying the King's Colour, on the occasion of the proclamation of the accession of King George V at Fermoy.

Army Pageant

On June 13th Captain H. B. T. Hume, with Sergeant Maplethorpe and nineteen rank and file, proceeded to London for the Army Pageant, held at Fulham Palace June 20th to July 2nd. They were deputed to represent the 45th Regiment in the episode of the siege of Badajos, Captain Hume taking the part of Lieutenant Macpherson, who so gallantly distinguished himself by hauling down the French Colour and hoisting his own jacket on the flag-staff.

Good Conduct Medals

Sergeant-Major Crummey, Quartermaster-Sergeant (O.R.S.) Simnett, Sergeant Maplethorpe, and Lance-Sergeant Sturgess have been awarded the medal for long service and good conduct.

Changes of Equipment

The new pattern entrenching tool of the "grubber type" in two parts, head and helve, with carriers, has at last been issued, but has not yet been tested as a means of obtaining cover in the field, the ground covered during the recent manœuvres being barred for digging.

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Changes, Promotions, Etc.

Major Roy has joined on the termination of his Staff Appointment at the War Office.

Major and Brevet-Colonel W. R. Marshall has been appointed Assistant-Commandant at the Mounted Infantry School at Longmoor.

Major Crofton Atkins has been appointed a Recruiting Staff Officer, Class II, in the London area.

Captain Hobbs has rejoined, and Captain Hume has taken his place as Adjutant of the 8th Battalion.

Captain Burnett-Hitchcock has been appointed a General Staff Officer, 2nd Grade, at Bermuda.

Captain Foster has been posted to the battalion on promotion and attached to the 3rd Battalion.

Lieutenant Sherbrooke is attached to the 4th Battalion.

Lieutenant Carter, who was posted on the expiration of sick leave from India, has gone to the Army Service Corps.

Lieutenants Dilworth and Needham have been promoted during the year.

2nd Lieutenant Bee has resigned.

2nd Lieutenant Shawcross has joined on first appointment.

N.C. Officers

The promotions have been :—

To Colour-Sergeant : Frow and Atkinson.

To Sergeant : Buttery, Barrett (Sergeant-Cook), Sturgess, and Martin.

To Corporal : Crowder (O.R. Clerk), Wardle, Farrand, Sadler, Whittaker, Rowell, and Poole.

Colour-Sergeant Cope and Corporal Marsden have been posted from the 1st Battalion.

Colour-Sergeant Torrance has gone to the Depot.

Sergeant Turner has been posted to the 6th Battalion, for a tour of duty of two years ; the first appointment, under the new regulations, of a Sergeant on the Home Establishment to fill a vacancy as Sergeant-Instructor on the ordinary line rate of pay.

Sergeants Green, Jackman, McDonald, and Smith ; Lance-Sergeant Higham, and Corporals Hodgson, Lymn, Beaumont, Cockbill, Ward, and Smith, have been attached to the 3rd

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2ND BTN.

WINNERS OF 6TH DIVISION LEAGUE AND BURKELEY CUP, IRELAND, 1909–10.

Q.M.S. Simnett, Corp. Harbottle, Pte. Bingham, Pte. Joyce,
Lce.-Corpl. Corner, Col. F. C. Shaw, Capt. A. S. Murray, Lce.-Sgt. Unwin, Pte. Bolsover,
Pte. Murphy, Pte. Sharman, Lce.-Corp. Deeming, Pte. Jennings, Pte. Bowler.

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Battalion, in relief of Sergeants Marshall, Murphy, Cuckson, and Seagraves, and Corporals Gee, Eyre, Walker, and Stapleford, who have rejoined.

Special Certificates, Etc.

Band-Sergeant Tomalin has passed the examination for admission to Kneller Hall for training as a Bandmaster, and was admitted as a student on February 28th.

Sergeant Barratt has obtained a Cooking Certificate at Aldershot.

Corporals Wardle and Martin, and Lance-Corporal Stevenson Certificates in Physical training.

Corporal Thornton in Pioneer Duties.

Sergeant Turner and Lance-Sergeant Royce have obtained Musketry Certificates at Hythe, the latter also qualifying in the Maxim Gun.

Colour-Sergeant Morton, Lance-Sergeant Royce, and Privates Clews and Piper have obtained 1st Class Certificates of Education.

Corporal Whittaker and Lance-Corporal Perkis have been sent to the Royal Army Clothing Department at Pimlico, for training for the appointment of Sergeant Tailor, and Private Woodward for training as Sergeant Shoemaker.

Obituary

No. 9959, Private H. Buxton, died of tuberculosis on November 28th, 1910.

No. 5596, Lance-Corporal G. H. Deeming, died of " heart failure " on December 17th, 1910.

The loss of the latter was severely felt in the battalion, where he was immensely and deservedly popular.

Boxing

A very successful regimental tournament was held at Fermoy on April 30th. Results :—

Feather Weights. First Round.—Private Daley knocked out Private Greenburg in the third round. Lance-Corporal George, Private Nix, Private Dowd (byes).

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Second Round.—Lance-Corporal George beat Private Nix in the first round. Private Dowd beat Private Daley.

Final.—Private Dowd beat Lance-Corporal George.

Light Weights. First Round.—Dr. Blackshaw sparred a bye with Private Springthorpe. Lance-Corporal Farrand beat Private Tindall. Private Concannon beat Private King. Lance-Corporal Poole beat Private Masters in the second round.

Second Round.—Blackshaw beat Farrand after an extra round. Concannon sparred a bye with Sergeant Jackman, Poole having scratched.

Final.—Concannon beat Blackshaw, who retired in the first round with an injured hand.

Middle Weights. First Round.—Private Groves beat Private Stevenson. Private Slater beat Private Harvey. Lance-Corporal Poole knocked out Private Hollingsworth in the fourth (extra) round. Private Twaites beat Private Seagraves.

Second Round.—Slater beat Groves. Poole knocked out Twaites in the first round.

Final.—Poole beat Slater, who retired in the first round.

Boys (*heavy*). First Round.—Lymn beat Collings. Stanley beat Wallsam. Watts beat Watson. Staples a bye.

Second Round.—Lymn beat Staples. Stanley beat Watts.

Final.—Stanley w.o. ; Lymn absent.

Boys (*light*). First Round.—Fox beat Stretton after an extra round. Williams beat Spanton. Kilminster a bye. Parfitt, Bandsman Howard, and Dr. Howard scratched.

Second Round.—Williams beat Kilminster, who shared the second prize with Fox.

The Final was not contested, as Williams was a bit too big for Fox. A special prize was awarded to Stretton for his good showing with Fox, and both were the recipients of a prize presented by the members of the Sergeants' Mess.

Musketry

The results in Table B show an all-round improvement on our shooting of last year, when the revised course, with its new targets coloured on service lines, was undertaken with little or no preparation.

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E Co. 2ND BTN. WINNERS OF BATTALION FOOTBALL SHIELD.

Pte. Needham, Cr.-Sgt. Morton, Pte. Boot, Pte. Slater,
Pte. Stubbs, Capt. Popham, D.S.O., Pte. Hopkinson, Pte. Shirt,
Pte. Lyons, Pte. Callaghan, Pte. Wright, Pte. Broadhurst, Lce.-Corp. Rowe.

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Fifteen officers and 558 other ranks were exercised, and the regimental average was 96·7.

The best shooting company is E Company (Captain R. S. Popham's, D.S.O.)—average 101·3.

The best shot of sergeants and lance-sergeants is Colour-Sergeant C. Chambers.

The best shot of the corporals and privates is Corporal S. Howarth.

C Company (Brevet-Major M. P. Phelps's) won the Judging Distance Shield.

The Annual Rifle Meeting was held by half-battalions at Kilworth Camp on May 27th and June 23rd, and the prize-winners were :—

Aggregate Competition

May 27th.—1, Corporal Howarth ; 2, Private Friend ; 3, Colour-Sergeant Morton ; 4, Private Taylor ; 5, Sergeant Holmes.

On June 23rd.—1, Lance-Corporal Farman ; 2, Corporal Morton ; 3, Lance-Corporal Kirkham ; 4, Sergeant McDonald ; 5, Private Wright ; 6, Sergeant Jackman ; 7, Private Fuller.

Snap Shooting Competition

On May 27th.—Lance-Corporal Brannon, Privates Hillier, Stubbs, and Baum tied and divided the prizes.

On June 23rd.—1, Corporal Smith ; 2, Private Sharp ; 3, Sergeant Courteney.

Rapid Firing Competition

On May 27th.—1, Private Cartledge ; 2, Privates Symons and Rowley divided ; 3, Sergeant Mortimer and Private Marsden divided ; 4, Privates Potter and Fletcher divided.

On June 23rd.—1, Corporal Parker ; 2, Private Hudson ; 3, Sergeant Ward ; 4, Corporal Beaumont.

Competition for 2nd and 3rd Class Shots

On May 27th.—1, Sergeant Mounteney, Corporal Phillips, and Privates Woods and Baum divided ; 2, Privates Harvey, Paul, Waldon, and Pratt divided.

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On June 23rd.—1, Private Oakland; 2, Lance-Corporal Whittaker; 3, Sergeant Hancock; 4, Colour-Sergeant Rice; 5, Private Wright.

Young Soldiers' Competition

On May 27th.—1, Private Morley; 2, Private Goddard.
On June 23rd.—1, Private White; 2, Private Worth; 3, Private Leaper.

Tile Competition

On May 27th.—1, Corporal Rees' team, A Company; 2, Corporal Basham's team.
On June 23rd.—1, Sergeant Platt's team, H Company.

Falling Tile Competition

On May 27th.—1, Colour-Sergeant Torrance's team, G Company.
On June 23rd.—1, Sergeant Raynor's team, H Company.

The regimental branch of the Royal Army Temperance Association held a Sports Meeting at Kilworth Camp on May 21st. Tea was provided on the ground and the meeting was graced by the presence of the ladies of the battalion, Mrs. Shaw kindly presenting the prizes.

Events and Prize Winners

1. 100 yards.—1, Lance-Corporal Rowe; 2, Private Beaumont; 3, Private Concannon; 4, Private Clarson.
2. Sack Race.—1, Private Parker; 2, Private Colclough; 3, Lance-Corporal Rowe.
3. 1 Mile Race (open).—1, Private Jones; 2, Corporal Watson; 3, Private Concannon; 4, Private Shaw.
4. Quarter-mile Race (boys).—1, Boy Hallam; 2, Stretton; 3, Tullett.
5. Derby (in pairs).—1, Privates O'Connor and Pendleton; 2, Privates Holmes and Osborne; 3, Privates Caulton and Bemrose.
6. Half-mile Race.—1, Private Concannon; 2, Lance-Corporal Rowe; 3, Private Beaumont; 4, Private Clarson.

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2ND BTN.

ANNUAL CRICKET MATCH: OFFICERS *v.* SERGEANTS.

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7. Three-legged Race.—1, Lance-Corporal Rowe and Private Clarson ; 2, Privates Caulton and Bemrose ; 3, Privates Colclough and Mills.

8. 3 Miles Race.—1, Private Beaumont ; 2, Private Beardsmore ; 3, Corporal Beaumont ; 4, Private Holmes.

9. Boot Race.—1, Private Holmes ; 2, Lance-Corporal Rowe ; 3, Private Bown.

10. Wheelbarrow Race.—1, Privates Holmes and Osborne ; 2, Lance-Corporal Rowe and Private Clarson ; 3, Privates Colclough and Mills.

11. Consolation Race.—1, Private Powell ; 2, Private Crewdson ; 3, Private Borrington ; 4, Private Adams.

The special prize for the best all-round member competing was awarded to Quartermaster-Sergeant Booker.

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X

3RD BATTALION NOTES

THE training passed off very peaceably and comfortably —bar the villainous weather which fell to our lot during the first ten days. Thanks, in a great measure, to the kindly hospitality showered on the officers by Mr. and Mrs. Charlton, who own and live at Chilwell Park, we had a very pleasant time. A garden fête organised by Mrs. Charlton was a great success. There was tennis galore, and a cricket match, in which Major Leveson-Gower made a long score, but which ended in a drawn game. The sports were held in the park. A large company assembled. A novel feature was a display of Swedish drill by the recruits under the gymnasium staff-sergeant. Letter E Company carried off the chief events. The torchlight tattoo, organised and carried out by S.-M. Skerritt, attracted a great crowd from Beeston; while a promenade concert given by the band, under S.-Dr. Bloomfield, in the public gardens, was voted a great success.

Major Wise suggested and tried to arrange with Lord Carnarvon's agent for the battalion to train this year at Bretby Park, the musketry to take place on the Burton range, but at the last moment all arrangements were cancelled, owing to the impossibility of obtaining the necessary permission from the shooting tenant of the estate.

Sanction was then obtained for the battalion to train at Chilwell Park, Beeston, about four miles from Nottingham, a favourite camping ground of the 4th Battalion, but new to the 3rd Battalion.

The musketry, both recruits and trained men's courses, was fired on the Trent range, about three miles from camp.

Dates of training :—

Recruits, June 10th to July 3rd.

Battalion, July 4th to July 23rd.

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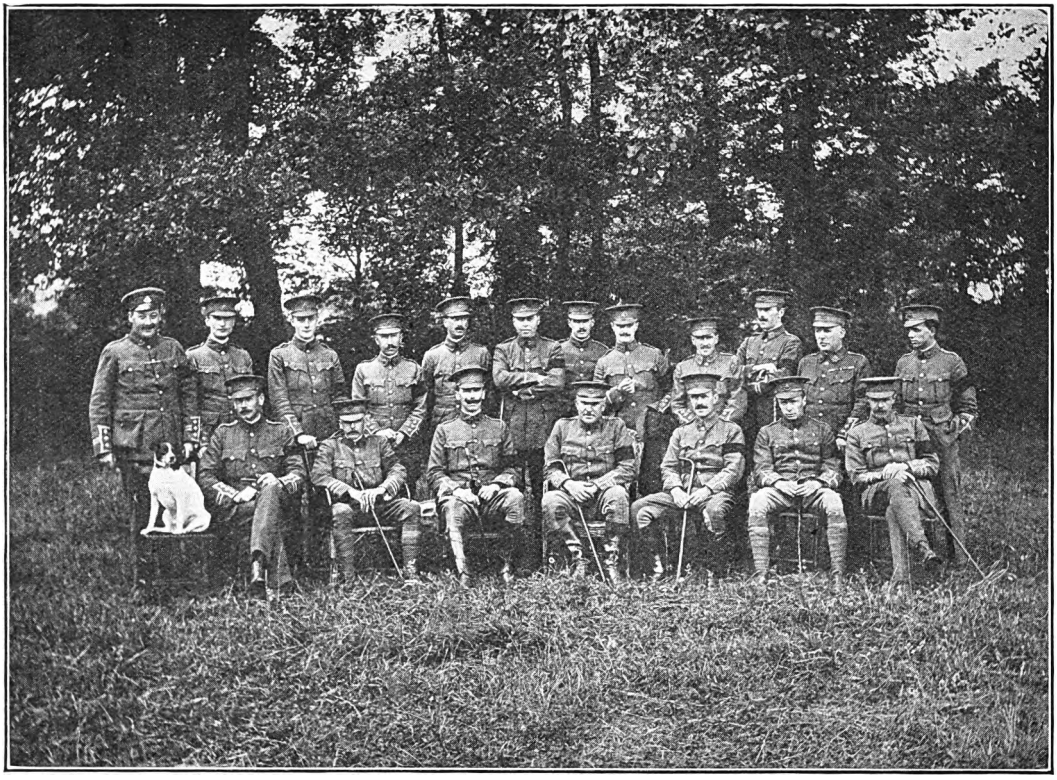

OFFICERS 3RD BTN.

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Recruits' musketry :—

The recruits, numbering seventy-nine, with thirty-four permanent and regular establishment, assembled at Derby on June 10th, and proceeded by rail to camp with the following officers :—

Captain and Adjutant C. R. Mortimore.
Captain G. F. Luther.
Captain M. K. Hodgson.
Lieutenant A. B. Wayte.
Lieutenant C. C. Schneider.

The recruits this year were called up three weeks before the assembly of the battalion, a week later than that previously ordered, the object being that they should be present with the battalion during the whole training, instead of being dismissed to their homes, as was the case last year, one week before the battalion broke down.

This arrangement was found to be a very satisfactory one, and far better for all concerned than that of last year.

There were two absentees from the recruits' party on assembly.

Of the seventy-nine recruits who assembled, sixty-three had completed their five months' drill at the Depot, and had been dismissed to their homes, and sixteen were Depot recruits with over three months' service.

Lieut.-Colonel Gordon-Cumming visited the camp twice during the recruits' musketry training.

Captain J. McIntire, R.A.M.C., joined the detachment at Chilwell Park on June 10th, and remained in medical charge of camp until relieved by Lieutenant Robertson, R.A.M.C., on July 16th.

The results of the recruits' musketry course were considerably better than those of last year, the average being 68·2, while that for 1909 was only 61.

The classification results were as follows :—

	1910	1909
1st Class shots	10*	5
2nd ,,	92*	112
3rd ,,	36*	64

* These totals include a party of fifty-nine recruits who fired their musketry course during their drill on enlistment at Depot in September, 1909.

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Best shot of detachment 1910, Private A. Dalby, score 92.

The conduct of the recruits in camp was exceptionally good.

Captain and Quartermaster F. Tyler joined the detachment on June 30th, in order to get the camp ready for the battalion on its arrival.

Annual Training

On July 4th, 1910, the battalion assembled at Derby, under command of Lieut.-Colonel L. S. Gordon-Cumming, and proceeded by rail to Beeston for Chilwell Camp at 3.30 p.m.

Strength

Officers 18 ; other ranks 508.

Officers present

Lieut.-Col. L. S. Gordon-Cumming (Commanding)
Major E. C. Heath (2nd in Command).
Captain and Hon. Major H. E. D. Wise.
Captain J. P. B. Reed.
,, R. C. Palmer-Morewood.
,, H. Howorth.
,, J. N. Meares.
,, M. K. Hodgson (Regular Establishment).
,, W. Swinhoe-Phelan ,, ,,
Lieut. A. B. Wayte ,, ,,
,, C. C. Schneider ,, ,,
,, C. E. Thornton
2nd Lieut. G. E. Venner (on probation).
,, E. H. Palmer ,, ,,
Captain and Adjutant C. R. Mortimore.
Captain and Quartermaster F. Tyler.
Captain J. McIntire, R.A.M.C.
Lieutenant H. O. C. Chipps, 4th Battalion (attached).

2nd Lieutenant E. N. Drury-Lowe was granted leave from the training on account of sickness.

Major P. Leveson-Gower did not attend the training, but remained in command of the Depot.

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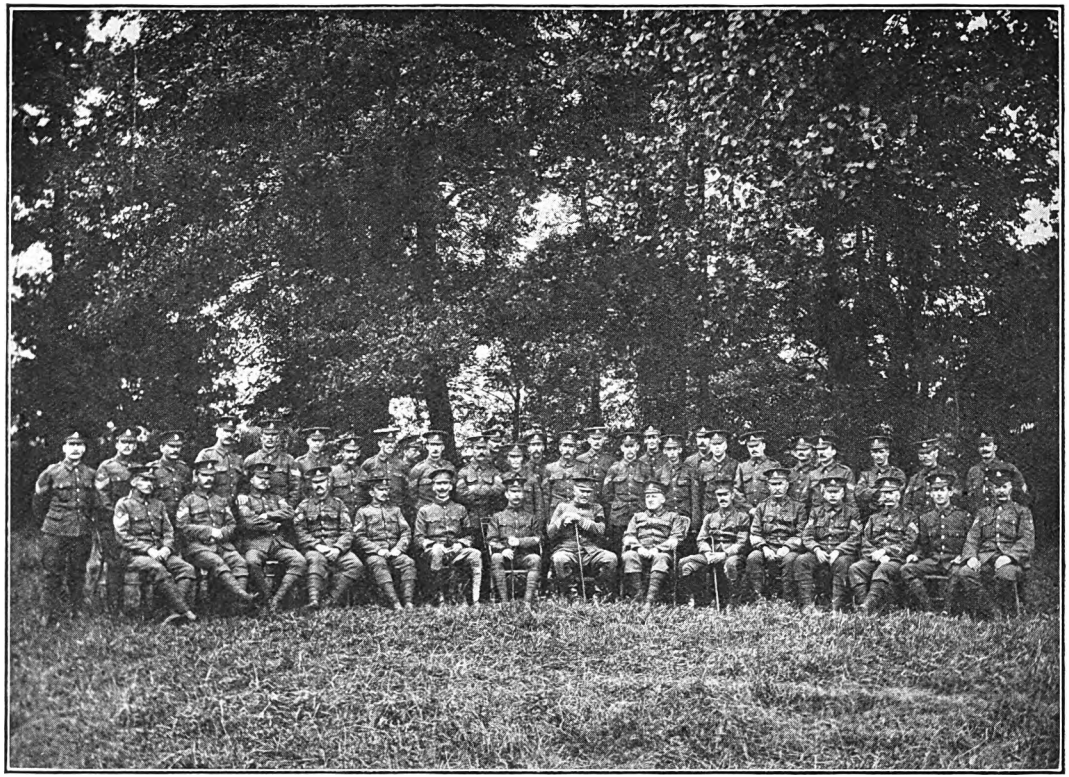

C.O., ADJT., WARRANT AND NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

3RD BTN.

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	W.O.	S.Sergts.	Cr. Sergts.	Cpls.	Dr.	Ptes.	Total.
Reg. Estab.	..	..	2 .. 2 ..	6 ..	..	15 ..	25
Perm. Staff	1 ..	3 ..	6 .. 6 ..	..	8 ..	..	24
Spec. Res.	..	..	.. 17 ..	12 ..	..	430 ..	459
Total	1 ..	3 ..	8 .. 25 ..	18 ..	8 ..	445 ..	508

There was only one absentee from the battalion training.

The trained soldiers' musketry course was fired during the first half of the training; the results of the course were an improvement on last year.

Best shooting company, Captain Hodgson's or B Company.

Best shot of officers and winner of Lord Roberts's Shield, Captain H. Howorth.

Best shot of sergeants, Colour-Sergeant Lymn.

Best shot of corporals and privates, Private W. Hooley, B Company.

The classification results were as follows :—

Marksmen	Nil.
1st Class shots	18
2nd Class shots	339
3rd Class shots	54
Average of battalion	70·1

This was three points better than last year.

Trained in the Maxim gun :—

1 Officer	2nd Lieutenant Palmer.
1 Sergeant	Sergeant Bucklow.
1 Corporal	Corporal Bacon.
24 Privates.	

On July 19th the battalion was inspected by the Colonel Commanding the District, Colonel F. E. Wallerstein.

He was received in line, and, after having walked down the ranks, saw the senior officers drill the battalion.

Afterwards he inspected all books and institutes, and saw two companies in marching order, two companies' kits, and two companies at musketry.

He then inspected the men's dinners.

In the afternoon he inspected the battalion in an outpost scheme under Major E. C. Heath.

The regimental sports were held on July 21st, and a torch-

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light tattoo the same evening. This was to have taken place the night before, but had to be postponed owing to the weather.

The battalion fell in at 5.30 a.m., and marched to Beeston on Saturday, July 23rd, and there entrained for Derby for dismissal.

On arrival at Derby Barracks, before handing over the battalion to O.C. Companies for final settlement and dismissal, the Colonel addressed the battalion.

He informed the men that he was extremely pleased with their conduct in camp, which had been excellent, and also with the results of the training. The inspecting officer had informed him that he was very pleased with the state of the battalion; and the Commanding Officer thanked all ranks for their loyal assistance, by means of which such an excellent result had been obtained.

The men were then handed over to O.C. Companies for final payment and dismissal to their homes.

Since last year's training 175 recruits have joined the regiment, and 132 men, mostly recruits, have been discharged, having been allowed to join the Army or Navy.

The following changes have occurred since end of training 1909:—

Major E. C. Heath promoted Major, August 26th, 1909, *vice* Major J. H. B. Fletcher, resigned.

The following officers have been appointed 2nd Lieutenants on probation:—

G. E. Venner, November 28th, 1909.

E. H. B. Palmer, January 29th, 1909.

2nd Lieutenant A. Brocklehurst granted a commission in K.R. Rifle Corps, June 4th, 1910.

2nd Lieutenant S. A. Tuck granted a commission in North Staffordshire Regiment, December 11th, 1909.

2nd Lieutenant U. S. Holden granted a commission in Army Service Corps on December 8th, 1909.

Lieutenant C. E. Thornton resigned his commission, July 27th, 1910.

Major P. Leveson-Gower posted for a tour of duty with the 3rd Battalion, and appointed to command the Depot from November 7th, 1909, *vice* Major C. R. Crofton-Atkins, whose tour of duty had expired.

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Captain W. Swinhoe-Phelan, Captain M. K. Hodgson, and Captain R. Foster have been posted to the 3rd Battalion for a tour of duty.

Captain G. Luther was transferred for duty from the 3rd Battalion to the 4th Battalion on July 24th, 1910.

The following is an extract from Northern Command Orders of August 15th, 1910:—

Major E. C. Heath, 3rd Battalion Sherwood Foresters, passed examination for tactical fitness for command under para. 262 Regulations for Special Reserve.

On November 1st, 1909, the strength of the battalion (Special Reservists) was 598, only two under the establishment, but this number fell to 503 on July 4th, 1910, the day the battalion assembled for training, owing to the large number of men who had joined the Regular Army or Navy, or who had been discharged as time-expired.

H. E. D. W.

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XI

4TH BATTALION NOTES

ON New Year's Day the permanent head-quarters of the battalion were established at the Depot, Derby, on being moved from Newark, where head-quarters had been since 1802, a period of nearly 108 years. Previous to this the head-quarters were at Nottingham, and when first moved to Newark accommodation was found for the armoury, stores, and offices in the Town Hall. It was not until the year 1857 that the barracks at Newark were completed, having been built by the Duke of Portland, who has ever since generously exacted a nominal rent only from the War Office. On the conversion of the Militia to the Special Reserve being accompanied by a new system of training the recruits, whereby the old-established annual Preliminary Drill immediately preceding training was abolished, it was considered that the Permanent Staff was not sufficiently employed at Newark during the non-training period, and consequently as many as could possibly be spared were transferred to the Depot, together with the orderly-room. It was not possible, however, to move the quartermaster's stores and armoury, there being no accommodation for these at the Depot, so that the quartermaster, quartermaster-sergeant, one sergeant, and three drummers had to remain permanently at Newark, and subsequently three duty-men were sent from the Depot in relief of the three drummers, in order that the band might not suffer by three musicians being away during the non-training period.

The Regular Establishment of Officers was completed in June by the appointment of Lieutenant R. L. Sherbrooke from the 2nd Battalion, and of Captain G. F. Luther, who was transferred from the Regular Establishment of the 3rd Battalion to complete his term of three years.

2nd Lieutenant T. H. Hudson, having completed eight

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months' probationary period with the 2nd Battalion, was confirmed in his rank on February 25th.

Lieutenant R. M. Blackwood, on retiring from the Sherwood Foresters under provision of Article 510 Royal Warrant, joined the battalion with seniority from July 20th, and remains seconded under the Colonial Office.

The following officers have transferred to the battalion :

Lieutenant H. O. Collins-Chipp from the 3rd Battalion York and Lancaster Regiment, dated October 3rd, 1909.

Captain and Hon. Major M. F. Hall from the R.F.A. Special Reserve, dated October 30th, 1909.

Lieutenant F. G. Waddington from the 3rd Battalion Royal Scots Fusiliers, with the rank of Captain, dated October 15th, 1910.

After twenty years' service in the battalion, Captain and Hon. Major C. P. Piers resigned his commission on April 2nd.

Captain F. J. Radford has been granted an extension of his Adjutancy for a further period of two years from October 9th, 1909.

Amongst the N.C. officers Colour-Sergeant Instructor of Musketry E. Pullen was posted to the Regular Establishment of the 6th Battalion on November 11th, 1909. He was succeeded in his appointment as Instructor of Musketry by Sergeant C. Cobb, a sergeant of the Regular Establishment of the battalion, who was promoted to the rank of colour-sergeant at the same time, his place being filled by the appointment of Sergeant W. Crowson, from the 1st Battalion, on February 1st, 1910.

Sergeant Terry qualified in the Army System of Physical Training at Aldershot, dated August 31st, 1910, and the following N.C. officers of the Regular Establishment qualified at the School of Musketry, Hythe : Sergeant F. Grosvenor, Sergeant A. Terry, and Sergeant W. Crowson.

The Annual Recruits' Course of Musketry was carried out at Strensall, commencing on May 6th. The quartermaster took up an advance party, consisting of N.C. officers and drummers of the Regular Establishment, to pitch camp three days beforehand, and was unfortunate in experiencing cold, wet weather. Recruits to the number of twenty-eight went direct from the Depot, under command of Captain Sadler, together with Lieutenant W. T. Stackhouse. The remainder

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of the recruits, numbering sixty-five, assembled from their homes at Newark, and proceeded under command of the Adjutant, together with Lieutenant T. J. Sheild, to camp at Strensall. Lieutenant H. O. Collins-Chipp also came up for duty.

The recruits shot well, and averaged 61·6. The course was completed in time to allow of camp being pitched for the battalion, which assembled at Newark on June 6th. Ten o'clock was the hour of assembly, and the battalion fell in at 1.30 p.m., and marched to the station. Camp was reached at 6.15 p.m. Musketry occupied most of the time until the 16th. The battalion average was 79·8, an improvement of 9·7 points on last year, which was chiefly attributable to the men not having to march four miles to the range every day, as was the case at Chilwell.

G Company compiled the best average, viz. 84·3, and captured the Battalion Shield from F Company.

Camp was visited on June 14th by the Inspector of Infantry, Major-General Sir Charles Fergusson. The men kept very fit, and there was practically no sickness. On June 22nd the battalion was inspected by Colonel F. E. Wallerstein, commanding No. 6 District, who expressed himself as pleased with the appearance of the battalion. The battalion received the inspecting officer in review order in line, but did not march past. A tactical scheme was to have been carried out in the afternoon, but was abandoned on account of rain, which fell heavily all the afternoon.

Most of the camp equipment was handed back to store on June 24th, and the battalion returned to Newark by two special trains on June 25th, the first party, after handing in kits at barracks, being passed by the second party on the way back to the station, when the men were finally settled up with, and the large majority entrained for Nottingham.

On the whole the weather was very fine and the men enjoyed the training. The following officers were present :—

Lieut.-Colonel	C. Didham.
Major	F. H. Weldon, D.S.O.
Captain	W. G. Johnson.
,,	G. L. Anson.

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Captain	M. F. Hall.
Lieutenant	T. J. Sheild.
,,	H. O. Collins-Chipp.
2nd Lieutenant	H. C. Cain.
,,	T. H. Hudson.

Also the following officers of the Regular Establishment :—

Captain and Adjutant F. J. Radford.
Captain R. P. Sadler.
Lieutenant W. T. Stackhouse.
,, R. L. Sherbrooke.
Hon. Lieutenant and Quartermaster A. Ewin.

The following officers were attached for training :—

Major E. G. Mayor, 3rd West Riding Regiment.
Captain C. de Robeck, 3rd Royal Dublin Fusiliers.
Captain C. Q. Court, R.F.A. Special Reserve.
Captain R. C. Milbank, 3rd West Riding Regiment.
Lieutenant F. G. Waddington, Royal Scots Fusiliers.

PAST HISTORY

An account of the past history of the Royal Sherwood Foresters, from the earliest records to the year 1872, was given in last year's Regimental Annual, and the following is a continuation of this account up to the present time.

From the year 1859 until December, 1899, the battalion was never embodied, and assembled for training every year, generally at Newark, until about the year 1877. On these occasions the men were billeted in the town, and the officers stayed at the Clinton Arms ; the companies assembled each day in the Market Place, and drilled on the Great North Road on the north side of the town.

Previous to 1881 the regiment had been linked to the 17th (Leicestershire) Regimental District. In this year the Territorial System was instituted, and the regiment henceforth became the 4th Battalion of the Sherwood Foresters (Derbyshire Regiment), the word " Royal " being omitted from the title. In 1903 the title of the regiment was again altered from Derbyshire Regiment to Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment.

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In 1897 the establishment of twelve companies was reduced to ten. In 1906 these were again reduced to eight, and on the conversion of the battalion to Special Reserve in 1908, the establishment was further reduced from 849 to 580.

During annual training in Bulwell Forest in 1885, the battalion was marched into Nottingham, and was met by the Mayor and Corporation and an enormous crowd of citizens of that town. New Colours were then presented to the battalion by Mrs. Webb, of Newstead Abbey, on behalf of the Duchess of St. Albans, and the old Colours were retained by Colonel Lowe, as Colonel of the regiment. The Mayor and Corporation gave the men a big dinner in camp on return from Nottingham.

The next year at annual training Colonel Lowe brought back the old Colours to the battalion, and they were deposited in St. Mary's Church, Nottingham, where they now rest.

During annual training in 1897 a party of 213 N.C. officers and men went to London for the Jubilee celebrations, and assisted in lining the streets during the procession, being stationed in the Mall.

During annual training in 1898 at Strensall the brigade, of which the battalion formed part, proceeded to Knavesmire, and was reviewed by the Prince of Wales.

The battalion received orders for 500 men to be embodied on December 11th, 1899. This number assembled at Newark accordingly, and proceeded to Hulme Barracks, Manchester, in relief of the 2nd Battalion Manchester Regiment, one company being sent to Lichfield.

In the first week of January, 1900, the battalion volunteered for service abroad, and the offer being accepted, the remainder of the men not embodied were called up.

On January 11th the battalion left Manchester and proceeded to Southampton and embarked there on H.M. hired transport *Umbria* for South Africa. The officers embarking were Colonel Pearse in command, Major Wilkinson, Major and Hon. Lieut.-Colonel Baird-Douglas, attached from 3rd Cameron Highlanders; Captains Humber, Piers, Bernal, Mabson, Harris, Wilmot, Fenwick, Hutton, attached Cathcart and Halkett; Lieutenants Ray and Johnson, 2nd Lieu-

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tenants Collin, Hewitt, Heymann, attached, Lawder; Captain and Adjutant Brittan, Lieutenant and Quartermaster McGuire and Civil Surgeon Buchanan. The *Umbria* arrived at Cape Town on January 29th, and then proceeded to Port Elizabeth, where the battalion disembarked on February 2nd.

The following day the left half-battalion, under command of Lieut.-Colonel Douglas, proceeded by rail to Cradock, whence small detachments were found at Rosmead, Kroon Hoogte, Henning, and Steynsberg.

The right half-battalion remained at Port Elizabeth until March 29th, when they left by train for Graaff Reinet. Here they remained until May 20th, when they proceeded by rail to Zand River, being joined on the way at Springfontein by the left half-battalion. On June 3rd Lieut.-Colonel Pearse was invalided and sent down to the base, command of the battalion devolving on Major and Hon. Lieut.-Colonel G. E. Wilkinson. On June 4th the battalion was ordered up to Rhenoster River, and started on June 5th by rail. Arriving at Kroonstad about 11 p.m., information was received that Roodeval railway station was threatened by a small party of Boers. The battalion was ordered to remain at Kroonstad, where, on arrival, steps were at once taken to place the station in a state of defence. The following day, June 6th, the battalion marched to Rhenoster River, the next station, a few miles up the railway line. One company was left at Roodeval and one company was detailed for outpost duty on some kopjes which commanded the camp. Some shots were heard during the night, and at about 3 a.m., June 7th, the battalion was fallen in under arms, and two more companies sent out to reinforce the outposts, but firing having ceased, the remainder of the battalion was dismissed, but the men were ordered to remain armed and equipped. At about daybreak very heavy rifle and gun fire was opened on the kopjes held by the outposts, and also on the camp from all sides, and it was discovered that the enemy had surrounded the camp during the night, and were in overwhelming numbers.

Shortly after the action began Lieut.-Colonel Wilkinson was severely wounded, the command devolving on Lieut.-Colonel Douglas. After a few hours' fighting the enemy captured the kopjes held by the outposts, and the battalion found itself in an untenable position and cut off from all

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retreat or succour. The casualties began to increase very rapidly, and at about 10.30 a.m. the order was given to surrender. Lieut.-Colonel Douglas was killed by one of the last shots fired. The attacking force was under C. de Wet, and consisted of 3000 or 4000 Boers, with 5 heavy guns and 1 pom-pom. The casualties suffered were 2 officers and 1 W.O. and 26 N.C.O.'s and men killed, and 2 officers and 62 N.C.O.'s and men wounded; also 1 attached officer killed and 1 wounded. The battalion was kept on the march as prisoners of war until June 26th, when the N.C.O.'s and men were placed across the Free State border into Natal and released. Several attempts were made to induce them to sign a parole not to serve again during the war, but without success. The officers were eventually taken down to Fouriesburg, where they were released on the appearance of British troops under General Hunter on July 29th.

On August 2nd the officers were placed in charge of Boer prisoners of Prinsloo's force, which had surrendered to General Hunter in the Wittenbergen, and marched with them to Winburg, whence the prisoners were despatched by rail to Cape Town. Meanwhile the N.C.O.'s and men found their way to Ladysmith, where they were armed and clothed and placed under command of Lieut.-Colonel Vines and some officers of the Gloucester Regiment, and were ultimately sent up to Pretoria, and there joined by the officers of the battalion on August 17th.

From this time until September 6th the battalion was employed on outpost duty outside Pretoria, and was then sent down to Port Elizabeth for embarkation home. The battalion was not, however, destined to leave South Africa for another seven months. During this time it was found necessary to place Port Elizabeth in a state of defence, owing to the Boers having penetrated thus far into the colony, and the battalion was occupied in this work. Two detachments of 100 men each were at different times sent to Cradock. Lieut.-Colonel Salmond, of the 3rd Battalion, took command of the battalion in relief of Lieut.-Colonel Vines on October 19th, and Lieut.-Colonel Wilkinson, on returning from England, reassumed command of the battalion on March 18th, 1901.

On April 4th, 1901, all detachments having rejoined head-

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quarters, the battalion embarked on board the *Formosa* for passage back to England. Southampton was reached on May 10th and Nottingham on May 11th. The battalion marched to the Guildhall, where the Colours were handed back to the regiment, and breakfast was provided by the Mayor. The battalion then proceeded by rail to Newark, where it was also accorded a great reception, and the men were provided with lunch by the Mayor. The men were finally dismissed to their homes at about 5 p.m. Annual training was dispensed with this year.

On July 29th, 1901, the officers and Permanent Staff proceeded to London, and were presented with the Queen's South African Medal by His Majesty the King at Marlborough House. The N.C.O.'s and men paraded in the Market Square, Nottingham, on November 7th, 1901, and were presented with the Queen's South African Medal by Lord Roberts.

The following officers were made Companions of the Distinguished Service Order :—

Major and Hon. Lieut.-Colonel G. E. Wilkinson.
Captain and Adjutant R. Brittan.
,, G. H. W. Bernal.

The following N.C.O.'s received the Distinguished Conduct Medal :—

Sergeant-Major Taylor.
Quartermaster-Sergeant Harwood.
Colour-Sergeant Walker.

The following officers, W.O.'s, and N.C.O.'s were mentioned in despatches by Lord Roberts, dated September 4th, 1901 :—

Major and Hon. Lieut.-Colonel G. E. Wilkinson.
Captain and Adjutant R. Brittan.
,, G. H. W. Bernal.
,, R. C. Fenwick.
,, Bailey.
Lieutenant and Quartermaster M. McGuire.
Sergeant-Major Taylor.
Colour-Sergeant Harwood.
,, Walker.
,, Plowright.
,, Poulter.

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Sergeant-Instructor Musketry Norman.
Sergeant Hopkins.
,, Allcock.
,, Brindley.

And the following by Lord Kitchener, date June 23rd, 1902:—

Lieutenant and Quartermaster M. McGuire.
Sergeant-Major Taylor.
Quartermaster-Sergeant Harwood.

The following officers were attached during embodiment:—

Major and Hon. Lieut.-Colonel Douglas, 3rd Cameron Highlanders.
Major and Hon. Lieut.-Colonel Salmond, 3rd Derbyshire Regiment.
Captain Cathcart, 3rd York and Lancaster Regiment.
,, Halkett, 3rd East Surrey Regiment.
2nd Lieutenant Lawder, Submarine Miners R.E.
,, Chatteris, 3rd Derbyshire Regiment.
Civil Surgeon Buchanan.

Lieut.-Colonel Baird-Douglas was killed at Rhenoster.
,, Salmond died of wounds at Burghersdorp.
2nd Lieutenant Lawder was wounded at Rhenoster.

During Annual Training in 1902 at Shorncliffe, the battalion proceeded to Aldershot to take part in the review on Laffan's Plain, in honour of King Edward's Coronation, held on June 16th, and returned to Shorncliffe on June 17th. The battalion was also ordered to furnish a detachment to line the streets for the Coronation procession in London ; but owing to the illness of the King, the order was cancelled.

In 1908 the whole of the Militia was transformed into Special Reserve, the date from which this took effect in the case of the battalion being June 14th.

F. J. R.

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XII

5TH BATTALION NOTES

AFTER three years of the Territorial System, we began the most critical year with some anxiety as to the future of the force in general and of the 5th Battalion in particular. The four years' service of a large proportion of the men will come to an end during the year. Whether the gloomy predictions of the pessimists who prophesied a premature end to the new regime will be fulfilled remains to be seen. But whatever the future may be, it cannot be doubted by anyone acquainted with the facts that the battalion is in a higher state of military efficiency than in any previous year. During the three years passed we have attended successively a regimental, a brigade, and a divisional Camp. Discipline has been improved, and the more prosaic details of company messing and the general maintenance of a unit in the field have been laboriously learnt. The new system, too, has inspired the enthusiasm of those who feel that their efforts to maintain efficiency have been taken more seriously by the authorities.

The outstanding feature of the year's training was the march to and from Hindlow Camp, a distance of nearly forty miles each way. This was no mean achievement, when it is remembered that before the beginning of the march the men had no special training, except the ordinary company and battalion drills of the year. The march was eagerly expected. The weather conditions were generally good, although one unfortunate downpour drenched the battalion a few minutes before it reached its camping-ground for the second night at Grange Mills. We had delayed at Cromford, to show our appreciation of Sunday by attending a church parade in a very bleak field, and we expected a better reward. On the Monday afternoon we marched into camp before an admiring crowd of soldiers and civilians with the

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Robin Hoods' bugle band and the 6th Battalion's brass band at our head. The last two miles of the forty-mile march was carried out at "attention," in respect to the various generals who met us on the way. The return march was an equal success. We reached Ashbourne for the first night's halt, after a long march of eighteen miles, with our ambulance wagon quite empty, not a man having fallen out on the way. The little town greeted us with extraordinary enthusiasm. The streets were gaily decorated, and the reception of the men off duty by the inhabitants reminded old soldiers of the gayest days of the old Volunteer life. Colonel Jelf entertained the officers to tea at the Old Hall. After church parade the next day we completed the march to Derby, a little tired, but inspirited by the greetings of the many hundreds who met us miles away, and the many thousands who watched the battalion swing down the Ashbourne Road to the Market Place. Too great praise cannot be given to the quartermaster and his staff and to the Transport Staff for the success of the march. Colonel Hunter expressed his pleasure with the general discipline and behaviour of the men during a severe test of their fitness and endurance. Although the weather during the march was good, Buxton maintained its reputation as an abnormally wet place throughout the camp. On very few days we had no rain, and during the whole training the signallers were never able to use their heliographs. The manœuvring area was ideal. Every variety of country was within a short march of the camp. This was a pleasant experience after our lengthy marches to Ugglebarnby two years before, and to the still more horrible Wykeham Moor of the previous year. The operations in which the battalion was engaged day by day were connected in a continuous scheme, which greatly increased their interest to all ranks. The base was generally at Earl Sterndale, a pretty village four miles from camp, and the sharp, broken hills between were the scenes of the most instructive engagements. Some of the hills were strangely reminiscent of the South African kopjes, especially at night. The battalion carried out a defensive scheme during the night. They held their position successfully, in spite of the gallantry of one of the enemy's patrols, who passed serenely through the lines under a heavy fire from every direction. Nothing

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LT.-COL. M. HUNTER, T.D.,
COMMANDING 5TH BTN.

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disturbed the coolness of the patrol—surrounded by the enemy and fired on from front and flank and rear—they continued their progress until they had passed out of the manœuvres area behind the position. A " cooking " experiment in the field was a new experience for most of the companies, who went through the work with their usual zeal.

During the camp the battalion signallers were engaged in more interesting work than in years past. As part of the Brigade Communicating Company they rarely failed to keep up communication between the brigade headquarters and the units in the field. The battalion signallers are to be congratulated on winning for the first time in our history the Brigade Signalling Cup. This was the more creditable since they carried out the selected tests in the absence of several of their most efficient men.

Apart from camp, the year has been uneventful. The Officers' Shooting Cup has been won by Captain Marsden. The Gascoigne Cup was carried off somewhat luckily by F Company. B Company took both the Markeaton and the Buchanan Cups, while the Shield for general efficiency came back to D Company, who have won it five times out of seven years of the competition. We must congratulate Major Worgan, our quartermaster, on his promotion, which has been a popular one. We realise how much we depend on the quartermaster and his staff for our comfort. The veteran Sergeant Ephraim Hunt has gone from the Stores Department, after over fifty years' military service in the Regulars and Volunteers. We wish him many years' happiness in his retirement.

This short retrospect would be incomplete without a reference to the departure of Captain Frend, our adjutant. During his service here we have received from him every possible help in our work. But it has been more particularly during the last two years that we have appreciated his energy in maintaining the battalion in a state of efficiency. We have not yet heard who is to be the new adjutant. Naturally during a change so important to a Territorial Battalion we are somewhat anxious as to who will be the new adjutant. Captain Coles is at present Acting Adjutant until the appointment is made.

T. N. W.

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XIII

6TH BATTALION NOTES

THERE is not much to record about the battalion since last year. The year has been quite uneventful. I am pleased to say that our numbers keep up, and that the battalion is up to its establishment, both in officers and men.

I am also pleased to record that our popular Commander, Lieut.-Colonel Jackson, has been granted an extension of command for two years. All ranks were pleased at the news, because Colonel Jackson has always been popular, and has done a great deal towards making the battalion as efficient as it is. His energy has been great, and it is in a large measure owing to him that we are full of officers and men.

In one respect, as I mentioned in my notes last year, we are very unfortunate in the 6th, and that is on account of the want of rifle ranges. This has had a most detrimental effect on the shooting. I am pleased to say that this want of ranges is being rectified, and that, since last year, 30-yard ranges have been built at Chesterfield, Clay Cross, Chapel-en-le-frith, and one has been sanctioned for Wirksworth. This will be a great boon to the men of the above companies. It will mean that instead of going to the range at Edale three times in the season, one visit will suffice, the remainder of the shooting being done on the 30-yard ranges. The annual camp was held at Hindlow, near Buxton, from July 31st to August 14th.

As usual, the men of the Peak did their best to learn all they could, and also tried to enjoy themselves. From the latter point of view it was a great drawback that Buxton was so far away from camp. However, although we all prefer a camp at the seaside, there was no grumbling, and when the camp was over, the verdict was that it was a pity we could not have had another week.

The camp was a division camp. It was the first time the

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battalion had been in a division camp, and I think most of the men were pleased to have had the experience of being in such a camp.

One feature of the work in camp, as last year, was physical drill before breakfast.

We had only one divisional day, and unfortunately it was wet. The battalion fell in about 8 a.m. in the rain, then marched up to a field about half a mile away from camp, fell in as a brigade, and waited, and in the rain. Then after a long time moved off, and then assembled in another field in brigade formation; another wait, more rain, and then the order to march back to camp. This order was received with thankfulness by many, who were wet through. And then the irony of the thing. When we got back to camp, the rain ceased, and the remainder of the day was fine.

We were sorry to have missed the big fight. The 6th Derbys love a fight, and hope to have one another time.

The weather whilst we were in camp was not satisfactory. We had a lot of rain, but I think a good deal was learnt, and the camp was both instructive and enjoyable.

General Sir John French, G.C.B., inspected the division on August 11th.

A Torchlight Tattoo was held on August 13th at Buxton, by the brigade bands, under Major C. D. Goodman, in the Gardens, for the benefit of the Old Comrades' Association. After the camp a letter of appreciation was received from General Sir H. Smith-Dorrien, K.C.B., thanking the brigade.

Another event during camp was a cricket match between the officers of the 5th and 6th Derbys and the officers of the 7th and 8th Notts. As usual, Derbyshire cricket was of the poorest quality, and Notts won. Another time we hope to have our revenge. We marched into camp on July 31st, 26 officers, 46 sergeants, 36 corporals, 15 drummers, and 773 men; 127 N.C.O.'s and men returned home at the end of the first week, August 7th, and 65 N.C.O.'s and men joined. Only 16 men were absent from camp without leave.

B Company, Chapel-en-le-frith, won the Commanding Officer's Prize for the best turned-out Company in the new bandolier equipment, which was issued to the battalion in camp.

In addition to the camp at Buxton, a week-end camp

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was held by D Company, and a week-end camp was held at Edale for the signallers, when very good work was done. Our signallers, thanks to our adjutant, Captain Atkinson, are a very energetic, hard-working lot, and take a great interest in their work.

Officers

We have lost several valuable officers by resignation during the year, in most cases owing to their leaving the district, but are pleased to say that their places have been filled by young officers, all of whom have been in the O.T. Corps of their respective schools or colleges.

They all show evidence that whatever may be said of Mr. Haldane's Territorial Scheme as a whole, the O.T. Corps is a good thing, and should be the means of providing keen and energetic young officers for the Territorial Force.

Major C. B. Symonds was restored to the Establishment from the Supernumerary List on August 21st, 1909, but resigned his commission on June 25th, 1910. He was granted permission to retain his rank and wear the prescribed uniform, and has since been awarded the V.D. Captain Goodman has been gazetted Major in his place, June 25th, 1910. Major Goodman has been in the battalion a great number of years. He was out in the South African War, and is a capable officer, and should make a very good field officer.

Colonel G. M. Jackson has been awarded the O.L.S. Medal. Surgeon L. A. W. Shea has been promoted Captain; Lieutenant H. E. Langford has been promoted Captain, and appointed to command C Company. Lieutenant G. Nicholson has been promoted Captain and appointed to command G Company; Lieutenant H. Welch has been promoted Captain and appointed to command B Company.

The following officers resigned their commissions during the year: —

Captain R. Turner, D.S.O.
,, J. Wheatcroft.
,, R. S. Hilton.
Lieutenant C. H. D. Dawson.

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And the following were gazetted to the battalion :—

J. H. M. Humble.
C. H. Wheatcroft.
E. A. Tollemache.
V. O. Robinson.
C. V. H. C. Blackwall.
Cyril B. Johnson.

Permanent Staff

Colour-Sergeant S. Cocker was discharged to pension October 10th, 1910.

Colour-Sergeant O. Wain awarded Medal for Long Service and Good Conduct A.O. October 1st, 1910.

Sergeant J. Turner, 2nd Battalion, posted for tour of duty with the battalion, is posted to E Company, as sergeant instructor, date December 11th, 1910.

Colour-Sergeant Instructor J. Spencer discharged to pension January 8th, 1910.

Colour-Sergeant Instructor M. L. Jackson permitted to continue in the service beyond twenty-one years, date February 3rd, 1910.

Colour-Sergeant W. J. Keery posted to the battalion from 1st Battalion March 22nd, 1910.

Colour-Sergeant Instructor Seaton, Colour-Sergeant Instructor W. L. Jackson, Colour-Sergeant Instructor O. Wain have been awarded Certificates from the R.S.A. Factory.

The following were awarded the Territorial Efficiency Medal :—

Colour-Sergeant O. Hoult.
Corporal G. Flint.
Private F. Fogg.
,, M. Bradley.
,, E. Nicholls.
,, J. Edge.

Efficients for the year 1910 :—

A	Company	141
B	,, ...	119
C	,, ...	124

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D	Company	124
E	,,	118
F	,,	110
G	,,	140
H	,,	119
	Total	995

Strength of battalion on December 31st, 1910 :—

Officers, 29 ; Establishment, 29.
Other ranks, 986 ; Establishment, 986.

2 Medical Officers, 2 Chaplains, 1 Adjutant (Captain E. M. Atkinson). 8 Instructors stationed as follows :—

Chesterfield	Colour-Sergeant	J. A. Sturges.
Chapel-en-le-frith	,,	M. L. Jackson.
Ashbourne	,,	O. Wain.
Bakewell	,,	E. Pullen.
Wirksworth	Sergeant	J. Turner.
Staveley	Colour-Sergeant	W. J. Keery.
Clay Cross	Act. Sergeant-Major	J. Shepherd.
Whaley Bridge	Colour-Sergeant	W. Seaton.

A FEW NOTES CONNECTED WITH THE HISTORY OF THE 6TH BATTALION NOTTS AND DERBY REGIMENT

The Volunteer Force in Derbyshire was raised in 1859, in pursuance of a requisition to the then Duke of Devonshire, signed by a great number of influential gentlemen. His Grace took immediate steps for the enrolment of volunteers.

As a result Derbyshire ranks sixth in order of precedence in the Volunteer Force. Until the Volunteer Battalions took the uniform of their county regiment, and to act as a constant reminder of this fact, the officers wore the figure 6 on their head-dress.

Companies were raised in Derbyshire as follows, and numbered accordingly :—

(1) Derby.
(2) Sudbury (2 Companies).
(3) Chesterfield.

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(4) Derby
(5) Derby
(6) Buxton.
(7) Chapel-en-le-frith.
(8) Ashbourne (1½ Companies).
(9) Bakewell.
(10) Wirksworth.
(11) Matlock.
(12) Butterley.
(13) Belper (1½ Companies).
(15) Derby.
(16) Ilkeston.

During 1860 the companies were formed into three provisional battalions as follows :—

1st Battalion under Lieut.-Colonel Sir Thomas Presley.

1st Derby.
4th Derby.
5th Derby.
12th Butterley.
13th Belper.
15th Derby.
16th Ilkeston.

2nd Battalion under Major Lord Vernon.

2nd Sudbury (2 Companies).
8th Ashbourne (1½ Companies)
10th Wirksworth.

3rd Battalion under Major Lord G. H. Cavendish.

3rd Chesterfield.
6th Buxton.
7th Chapel-en-le-frith.
9th Bakewell.
11th Matlock.

As organised above, the Volunteers were reviewed in Chatsworth Park on October 24th, 1860, by Lieut.-General Sir George Wetheral, K.C.B., and this event may be taken as the real birthday of the present Territorial Battalion. It

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was the first Battalion Parade, and all ranks turned up in uniform, and properly armed. The three Volunteer Battalions were brigaded for the occasion under Major the Marquis of Hartington, Chatsworth Rifles, the late Duke of Devonshire. It is interesting to note the strength of the different companies at that time, of those now forming part of the 6th Battalion Notts and Derby Regiment.

3RD BATTALION

	Officers.	N.C.O.'s	Rank and File.	Total.
3rd Chesterfield	3	5	82	90
6th Buxton	3	4	45	52
7th Chapel-en-le-frith	3	5	28	36
9th Bakewell	2	5	82	89
11th Matlock.....	3	4	64	71
				338

Shortly after the organisation of the battalions as above a company was raised at Clay Cross, and given the number 17, and the half-company which had been raised at Whaley Bridge, part of the Chapel-en-le-frith Company, became a separate company, and received the number 18.

No. 6, Buxton Company, did not survive very long, and disappeared off the scene. In the same way the two Sudbury Companies could not be maintained. The changes led to a reconstruction of the battalions. The 2nd Battalion was wiped out, and the two South Derbyshire Companies, Ashbourne and Wirksworth, were added to the North Derbyshire Battalion. That is our present battalion.

A few years later an independent company was raised at Hartington, received the number 21, and in 1874 another was raised at Staveley, and numbered 22.

During the above period the battalion was an administrative battalion, that is, each company was treated absolutely as a separate unit. It clothed itself without reference to the other companies of the battalion, and the Colonel had no control over it in any way, except when on a battalion parade. It was an independent unit in every respect.

Colonel J. C. Cavendish was appointed to command the

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battalion in the year 1869, and gradually brought the different companies to adopt something approaching uniformity. The original grey uniform which most of the companies had adopted gave way to scarlet with blue facings in the 'sixties, and in 1872 some of the companies provided themselves with overcoats.

In 1873 the battalion took part in the manœuvres at Cannock Chase. This event marked the commencement of a new era in the battalion. It demonstrated the necessity for better clothing, higher training, and more serious treatment of the force.

The officers felt that the old disjointed battalion was no use as a fighting unit.

As a first step they decided to go into a small regimental camp. This, the first camp, took place on Calton Pastures, near Bakewell, in June, 1874. It was a step in advance, and there has been a camp every year since.

Soon after this the officers applied to have the Administrative Battalion made into a consolidated battalion. This was accomplished in the year 1879.

In 1880 Captain Mayhew became Adjutant of the Battalion. Captain Mayhew was a most capable and energetic officer, and he at once set to work to put the battalion into shape. He established an orderly-room at head-quarters, proper standing orders were prepared, camps were organised on sterner lines, and some attempt at central control was accomplished. The battalion has never looked back since.

In 1881 the battalion took part in the Review by Her Majesty Queen Victoria, in Windsor Park.

About the same time the introduction of the Territorial system had led to an alteration in the name of the battalion, from the 3rd Derbyshire Rifle Volunteers to that of the 2nd Volunteer Battalion, the Sherwood Foresters, Derbyshire Regiment, and the assimilation of the uniform to that of the line battalion, the blue Austrian knot being specially permitted to be worn, upon the abolition of the blue cuffs and collars. By special permission the scarlet kersey coat was allowed to take the place of tunics. Another result of the adoption of the Territorial name was to destroy the old numbering of the companies. The companies received alphabetical numbering instead.

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During the South African War the battalion, which for some years had been over its establishment, was allowed to raise three additional companies, another company being raised at Chesterfield, one at Buxton, and a special Cyclist Company was formed. The battalion thus organised remained so until Mr. Haldane's Territorial scheme was adopted, when several companies were disbanded, and a new organisation of eight companies, 29 officers and 997 other ranks, was allowed.

The South African War gave some of the battalion an opportunity of seeing active service, and 3 officers and 125 N.C.O.'s and men went out to South Africa, to join their regular battalion, or to serve with the Imperial Yeomanry.

The battalion has been very fortunate in its commanding officers. Colonel J. C. Cavendish, who has had a great deal to do with making the battalion an efficient unit, was in command from 1869 to 1897.

The names of the commanding officers since its commencement are as follows :—

1859–69. Colonel Lord G. H. Cavendish.
1869–97. Colonel J. C. Cavendish, A.D.C., V.D.
1897–1900. Colonel E. Hall, V.D.
1900–1904. Colonel H. Brooke-Taylor, V.D.
1904 to present time. Lieut.-Colonel G. M. Jackson.

J. M. C.

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XIV

7TH BATTALION NOTES

SO far as the Robin Hoods personally are concerned the past year has been principally conspicuous by the absence of any notable events, with the exception possibly of the fact that the battalion attended its first divisional camp as a unit of the Territorial Force, and, so far as is known, the first camp of this sort when the division was one that permanently existed as regards organisation and administration.

On January 1st, 1910, out of a total establishment of 1013 officers and other ranks, the battalion had a strength of 27 officers and 954 other ranks, exclusive of attached and Permanent Staff.

At the end of the year, December 31st, 1910, the corresponding strength was 28 officers and 866 other ranks, which shows a decrease of 88 N.C.O.'s and men, principally due to the fact that only two new squads of recruits were called for, and their numbers fell a long way short of counterbalancing the large number of discharges, totalling some 183, due to different causes, as stated. Increase of strength during the year 1910 :—

Recruits enlisted for the first time	89
Men enlisted having previous service ..	6
Total	95

Decrease during the same period :—

Discharged on termination of engagement or on attaining the age limit	121
Discharged on joining Royal Navy	1
Discharged on joining Regular Army....	12
Discharged on joining Special Reserve...	14
Discharged for other causes.....	35
Total	183

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Early in the month of January efforts were directed to obtaining the voluntary attendance of members at classes of instruction for beginners in signalling and machine-gun duties. After some delay these classes were started with somewhat better success than in previous years, and after receiving a number of lectures by the adjutant or other instructors at head-quarters, their work was gradually merged into that of the existing numbers of these sections.

Other forms of winter training took the nature of a written tactical scheme on which a series of exercises was set for commissioned officers, issued by Colonel W. H. E. Murray, commanding the Notts and Derby Infantry Brigade T.F.

Solutions were submitted by a good percentage of the officers of the battalion, and the scheme was finally concluded in a very interesting Brigade Instructional Tour to Leicester, and the surrounding country which had figured in the exercise, conducted by the brigadier personally, assisted by Major A. Mann, the brigade-major.

A large number of officers of the brigade attended and acquired a lot of practical information, in addition to a considerable amount of physical exercise over the actual country that had been dealt with.

A course of lectures for company officers and N.C.O.'s was carried out by the adjutant, on subjects connected with company training, embracing elementary musketry instruction, effect of fire, field entrenchments, map reading and topography, attack, defence, outposts, etc.

Lectures to the transport section, and, in certain cases, company lectures by officers commanding companies, completed the greater part of the programme regarded as winter training.

Recruits' drills continued throughout the period preceding the annual camp training; at first these were held for those recruits who had failed to complete their forty drills before the previous Christmas, and also to enable a very large proportion of the 1909 training year's recruits to perform drills in which they were deficient at the end of October, 1909.

Owing to the very large number enlisted in that year, the limited Permanent Staff and temporary instructors, and want of drill accommodation, had been insufficient to

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OFFICERS 7TH BTN.

HINDLOW CAMP, NEAR BUXTON, 1910.

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afford the necessary opportunities for the requisite forty drills to be completed in time.

Those recruits, however, who had carried out the greater portion of these drills were specially recorded as efficient by the General Officer Commanding the Division, provided that they subsequently performed these drills in addition to their training for the year 1910.

After these had been dealt with, recruits' drills were only held for those enlisted late in 1909, and those of a squad formed in February, 1910.

Owing, however, to the Drill Hall now being more or less common property to all local Territorial Force units, accommodation had also to be requisitioned for drill purposes in the Corn Exchange in Thurland Street, until the season was sufficiently advanced to permit of out-door drills after 7.30 p.m.

Everyone's thoughts during January were principally concerned with the elections, and attention being called to Military Regulations regarding the assemblage of troops during such periods, instruction was confined to that of recruits in limited numbers, and to keep absolutely clear of any misunderstanding, orders were issued that no N.C.O.'s or men were to appear in uniform in public places without special permission between the dates January 15th and 23rd, covering the period between the issue of the Parliamentary writ and return of members for the borough.

On the 21st of the month the first member of the Robin Hood Rifles to transfer to the Territorial Force Robin Hoods, namely No. 1 Quartermaster-Sergeant H. J. Briscoe, A Company, was discharged, in consequence of having passed the age limit laid down for his rank. He had actually attained the prescribed age several months previously, but by special sanction of the brigadier had been permitted to remain on the strength until after the close of the training year.

Quartermaster-Sergeant Briscoe held a total service of just over eighteen years in the Volunteer and Territorial Forces, having been promoted corporal in 1896, sergeant in 1899, colour-sergeant 1902, and quartermaster-sergeant on September 16th, 1905. He was granted the Volunteer Long Service Medal on January 1st, 1909, under the special conditions affecting those who had transferred from the Volunteer

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Force. On discharge he was granted the privilege of retaining his rank, with the right to wear the prescribed uniform.

As a senior N.C.O. Quartermaster-Sergeant Briscoe has been intimately connected with the administration of the battalion, and has rendered valuable services in the double capacity of orderly-room clerk and finance secretary.

In the latter capacity he still remains connected with the Robin Hoods, and we are glad to say that the county Territorial Force Association have also realised his value in the matter of dealing with accounts, and employ his services.

No. 157, Sergeant J. Butter, of E Company, was also discharged on this date for a similar reason. He was enrolled in the Volunteers September 7th, 1888, and completed a total length of service of 21 years and 137 days, being granted the Volunteer Long Service Medal also on January 1st, 1909, under similar conditions.

Several promotions were made on the 21st of the month, the principal being No. 140, Sergeant E. Skinner (formerly armourer-sergeant), of H Company, to the rank of quartermaster-sergeant. No. 84, Lance-Corporal D. Poole, of D Company, to the rank of corporal, followed on February 4th by his further promotion to sergeant and appointment as cook-sergeant of the battalion, for which position he had been qualified for some time, having obtained the necessary certificate at the Aldershot School of Cookery. No. 277, Lance-Corporal J. Johnson, of H Company, was promoted corporal, and on February 4th sergeant, being appointed signalling-sergeant to the battalion, he being already in possession of an Assistant Instructor's Certificate of signalling.

On January 26th the annual meeting of the members of the N.C.O.'s Club was held at head-quarters. In February recruits' drills continued, and the adjutant's course of lectures commenced on the 11th instant.

These were held in the band-room in Norfolk Place, at the back of the General Post Office, which was the first solution of the difficulty of obtaining a room constantly available for lectures, accommodation at head-quarters being very limited, theoretical instruction having to take place in the adjutant's or N.C.O.'s offices or the armourers' shop.

Although even the new-found lecture-room was somewhat limited in capacity and difficult to get at, the attendances

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A Co. (Capt. A. N. LEE) 7th BTN.

Winners of Duke of Portland Vase, the Sir Jesse Boot Cup, Sir Charles Seeley's Shield, and Sergeants' Bowl; best shooting Co., 1910.

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of the N.C.O.'s were decidedly good to start with, and the percentage who completed the whole course was very satisfactory.

It was encouraging to find that so many more of the non-commissioned ranks than in previous years recognised the importance of their positions, and realised that the ranks they held and the stripes they wore were by no means intended for decorative purposes only.

The improvement in the all-round efficiency of the battalion in the past year can be attributed in a large measure to the increased interest that both company officers and N.C.O.'s have taken in their duties, and particularly the trouble that the latter have taken to increase their theoretical and practical knowledge, the results of which are now becoming apparent on the rank and file.

The brigadier has particularly laid emphasis upon the individual training of the N.C.O.'s, and the fact that they must take their duties seriously, and study their military textbooks, with which object in view he conducted a personal inspection of the N.C.O.'s at company drills throughout the brigade during this training year.

Prior to the commencement of company drills a pamphlet entitled *Instructions and Observations upon the Training of Companies*, 1910, was issued by the Commanding Officer; copies of these, together with a similar pamphlet of *Notes on Training*, by the brigadier, were issued to all officers and N.C.O.'s.

On Saturday, February 5th, F (Captain E. H. Spalding's) Company's Annual Dinner and Prize Distribution was held at the Albert Hotel, Derby Road.

Preparations in anticipation of the commencement of company drills were made, the allotments of N.C.O.'s to sections being revised, and nights arranged for companies' drills.

The signallers commenced practice in the Drill Hall and Corn Exchange, their previous instruction having been confined to lectures on theory and apparatus, etc.

On February 24th applicants for enlistment were received at the Corn Exchange, and after the necessary medical examination and approvals had been completed, a squad of some forty-nine strong commenced drills.

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During the winter months all the Lee-Metford and Lee-Enfield Mark ·II rifles on charge of the battalion had been returned to the Ordnance Department, and an issue in their place of 989 stands of charger-loading Lee-Enfields (" The Territorial Rifle ") was made.

A few rifles of this pattern had previously been received for purposes of instruction, but this was the first general supply received for the battalion.

With the issue of these rifles great hopes were entertained of an all-round improvement in the battalion's musketry standard, which the annual records show to have been fulfilled to a great extent. So far as the barrels were concerned the rifles were not new, but their accuracy, at any rate last year, was much more to be depended upon than that of those they replaced, which had in the majority of cases suffered considerably from wear and tear, and original ideas of members in the proper method of cleaning them.

Company drills commenced at the Drill Hall on February 28th, during four nights per week, two companies drilling each evening, the first at 7.30 p.m. and the second at 8.30 p.m., companies' hours of drills being interchanged each alternate week though remaining on the same night.

In addition to recruits' drills being held in the evening, opportunities were given for them to parade on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, but the attendances were so small that these drills were abandoned.

The London Gazette of February 11th notified the re-transfer to the battalion of Captain Herbert Mansfield-Whitehead from the Notts and Derby Brigade Company A.S.C., to date November 20th, 1909, the same gazette also containing the announcement of his resignation of his commission and grant of permission to retain his rank and wear the prescribed uniform on retirement, to date November 21st, 1909.

Captain Whitehead had served in the Robin Hood Rifles from 1895, being attached to the corps as an officer of one of the Transport Companies for some years prior to the establishment of the Territorial Force, transferring at that date to the A.S. Corps T.F. We were glad to have his name back on the books of the Robin Hoods once more, even though only for a few hours, Captain Whitehead having been a

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most enthusiastic and cheery member of the mess, who, when not engaged in setting things in a general blaze, has been remarkable for his energy in putting conflagrations out, to which testimony can be borne, particularly in connection with Conway Camp of 1906; and amongst his civilian hobbies we are informed he can at times be witnessed leading the local fire brigade to glory or destruction (of property ?).

We hope shortly to have his name again on the military records of the Robin Hoods as a member of the Reserve.

In the same gazette notification was given of the appointment on first commission of Mr. John Campbell Boot to the battalion, to date November 1st, 1909, whom we heartily welcome among us. 2nd Lieutenant J. C. Boot on appointment was posted to F (Captain E. H. Spalding's) Company.

The first few company drills were devoted to instructions respecting the new rifle, the further training of companies being left to the discretion of Company Commanders, after essential training had been drawn attention to in the pamphlet issued regarding company training.

Warnings were issued to all ranks that the musketry requirements of trained men were to be completed before camp. A larger percentage of the trained men than usual carried out these instructions, but still a great number failed to attend the early opportunities afforded for range practice and standard tests, and caused musketry to be unduly prolonged after camp.

One material advance in trained men's musketry instruction has been made in the past year, and that is that it is almost entirely conducted under the personal supervision of their own company officers and N.C.O.'s for the first time. This desirable method has been gradually arrived at during the past two years, and the days when members attended on the range at their own sweet will, and let off their allotted number of rounds into the target, stop-butt, or empyrean without supervision or instruction have vanished into the past, we hope, for ever.

No doubt those days were more convenient to the wishes of the individual member, but their value from an instruction point of view was practically nil, the only instruction obtainable being from three or four harassed N.C.O.'s of the Permanent Staff, who were endeavouring to control two firing

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points, and keep the scores for twelve targets with a crowd of about 100 members all waiting to fire on Saturday afternoons.

During this month the miniature cartridge range at the Drill Hall, with a moderate expenditure, was increased in size to give accommodation for sixteen targets with a sand stop-butt, which can be used by night or day. Unfortunately up to date, although many opportunities have been given, very little increased use has been made of these facilities for practice.

The Annual Dinner and Prize Distribution of E (Captain B. E. Bailey's) Company was held at the Albert Hotel on March 5th.

Members wishing to undertake Imperial Service were called upon to sign the necessary form in the presence of the Commanding Officer, but few availed themselves of the opportunity given, the general opinion, it is conjectured, being that whilst, should occasion arise, many would offer their services for this duty readily, the entry into an undertaking to give such services without any apparent advantage obtained in return was not popular.

On March 12th the members of the N.C.O.'s club entertained the sergeants of the Depot Sherwood Foresters at the Club Rooms at battalion head-quarters.

Trent Range was opened for practice on the 24th inst., and A, B, C, and D Companies commenced their annual musketry for trained men on the 31st; E, F, G, and H following suit on April 2nd.

For some weeks the range was allotted to half-battalions on alternate Thursdays and Saturdays, accommodation also being given to companies on the miniature cartridge range on dates when targets at Trent were not available for them.

In spite of many endeavours to induce members whose periods of engagement ended between April 1st and June 30th, and who wished to continue to serve, to re-engage early and save an accumulation of clerical work at head-quarters, many did not submit their applications until the last moment, several running the risk of automatic discharge very closely. The number of those whose engagements were due to end between these dates was some 320, of whom about 180

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eventually re-engaged for further service. Musketry instruction for trained men and company drills continued throughout April, also instruction of signallers, machine-gun section, transport, and other details.

Notification was received that attendance at the National Rifle Association and entry for certain competitions thereat would no longer be permitted to count as attendance at annual training camp.

Lieutenant A. T. Mulhall, R.A.M.C., attached medical officer to the battalion, commenced a series of lectures and demonstrations in first aid to the wounded at the band-room, Norfolk Place. These were primarily intended for members of the battalion's brass band, but were open to the attendance of other members, only a few of whom, unfortunately, took advantage of the opportunity afforded for acquiring useful knowledge.

The London Gazette of March 22nd notified the appointment of Lance-Corporal Cecil Featherstone Hammond of the battalion to a commission, to date March 21st, 1910. 2nd Lieutenant C. F. Hammond, on appointment, was posted to G (Captain P. M. Payne's) Company.

In the latter half of the month it was found that range allotments for musketry on Thursday afternoons were so poorly attended that these had to be discontinued, the numbers attending for instructional practices being so small as not to warrant the expenditure involved in the provision of markers and attendance of officers, N.C.O.'s, and Permanent Staff.

Copies of the Regimental Annual for 1910 were received, a shilling edition being published for the first time in addition to the half-crown edition.

We sincerely hope that the publication of the cheaper edition may be continued, but distinct doubts exist as to whether this will remain possible unless a larger demand is made for the issue.

Up to date twenty-nine copies of the half-crown and eighty-seven copies of the cheaper edition for 1910 have been retailed in the battalion, but this by no means covers the sum guaranteed and forwarded by the Commanding Officer in advance to assist in the publication of the Annual.

Every member of the Robin Hoods should endeavour

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to assist the continued publication of both editions by purchasing a copy, and persuading others to do so. The merits of this journal have been previously drawn attention to by several writers in its pages, and by other means.

Possibly even the cheaper edition is out of the reach of some, but they should be few; and after all the purchase by the battalion of thirty half-crown copies and 160 shilling copies will cover the amount of the battalion guarantee, which our Editor has stated to be necessary to maintain the publication. Even if individual members do not appreciate the book now, a time will come later on in the service of many of them when they will probably wish they had secured copies, which would form a valuable memento and record of the doings of their own and other battalions of the regiment during the period in which they were serving members.

At meetings held by the officers and N.C.O.'s the following were elected to serve on the shooting committee of the battalion for the year: Officers—Captain and Hon. Major P. M. Payne; Captains Rayner, Spalding, Hardstaff, and Hanson; 2nd Lieutenant Stubington. N.C.O.'s—Colour-Sergeant McCaig; Sergeants Hall and Smart; Lance-Sergeant Hildyard. In Army Orders of this month No. 3304 Colour-Sergeant Instructor G. H. Francis, of the Permanent Staff, was awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal with gratuity. Colour-Sergeant Francis enlisted in the Sherwood Foresters on October 7th, 1891, and after serving with both regular battalions, was posted to the Permanent Staff of the Robin Hoods, July 12th, 1909.

On May 2nd the first shoot for the battalion aggregate took place, and the first Standard Test for trained men was held on the 7th instant, morning and afternoon.

It was during the first few days of the month that the country became aware of the illness of His late Majesty King Edward VII, and before its gravity had been fully appreciated the grievous news of his sudden death on May 6th was notified throughout the country.

It would be vain to attempt to describe how universally the grief that this news caused was felt throughout every social grade in the city; few could at first realise the blow that had fallen, though on all sides tokens of mourning and respect for the dead King met the eye.

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7TH BTN.

CAMP AT HINDLOW, 1910.

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No individuals were too poor to provide themselves with some small scrap of crape or black ribbon or other outward emblem of mourning, and all business and other establishments in the city added their contribution in one manner or another to the signs of national regret and respect.

All officers were ordered to wear mourning bands on the left arm of the tunic or overcoat for a period of six months, whilst the playing of military bands, etc., was restricted until after the date fixed for His late Majesty's funeral.

The accession of His Majesty King George V was proclaimed from the steps of the Guildhall, the Mayor and civic officials attending in the robes of their offices. Amongst the other representatives of local bodies and institutions, Lieut.-Colonel C. W. Birkin and Captain and Adjutant C. C. Parkinson, M.V.O., were present.

On the 17th of the month special battalion orders were published, giving notice of a Memorial Service to be held on the Market Place on May 20th, the date fixed for His late Majesty's funeral.

This service was attended by representatives of every Territorial unit in the city.

Under the arrangements of the Corporation a large portion of the Market Square immediately facing and adjoining the Exchange was railed off with heavy timbers, this barrier enclosing a rectangle and closing the western exit from Smithy Row to King's and Queen's Streets and the northern side of the Market Place.

It was well that these barriers were of a solid nature, as the pressure of the crowds, particularly at the foot of King Street, on the 20th caused them to bend ominously.

The detachments of the different Territorial units present were formed up inside the barrier on three sides of a hollow square facing the front of the Exchange, under arrangements made by the Adjutant of the Robin Hoods.

The battalion formed the outer lines, and detachments of the Officers' Training Corps, Senior Division (Nottingham University), Junior Division (Nottingham High School), Notts Battery R.H.A., South Notts Hussars, Mounted Brigade Field Ambulance R.A.M.C., and Notts and Derby Brigade Company A.S. Corps, took up positions within the square.

A large number of veterans of the Crimean and Indian

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Mutiny Veterans' Associations were present, as were also a number of veteran members of the Robin Hood Rifles, in uniform.

The service was taken from No. 3 Pamphlet of those printed and circulated throughout the country for the occasion, and was conducted by the Rev. H. T. Hayman, Chaplain to the Robin Hoods, who also briefly addressed the immense and silent gathering of troops and populace in the Market Place; two hymns were sung, and the short lesson for the occasion was read by Captain C. C. Parkinson, M.V.O.

The huge gathering presented a most impressive spectacle. The day was excessively hot for the time of year, the sun beating down fiercely on to the Market Square, on which no shade was obtainable.

A dais suitably draped in black and purple, and upon which had been placed the battalion's drums covered in black, occupied the centre of the third side of the square immediately in front of the Exchange clock, and served as a pulpit for the Chaplain.

Immediately in front of this the Crimean and Indian Mutiny veterans were seated, and beyond these stood the ranks of the different detachments, whose brilliant uniforms contrasted with the dark green and silver background of the Robin Hoods, succeeded by the far-stretching expanse of civilian onlookers, the whole surrounded by the buildings enclosing the Market Square, the façades of which were heavily draped with black and purple.

The crowds assembled in the Market Place and on the route to St. Mary's Parish Church were estimated at not less than 50,000, and from these many, overcome by the heat and pressure, had to be carried into the only first-aid stations apparently available, namely those provided in case of emergency for the troops, under the Exchange buildings.

At the commencement of the service the Robin Hoods' band played Chopin's *Marche Funèbre*, subsequently accompanying the hymns, and after the sounding of the Last Post on the battalion's bugles, rendered the Dead March in Saul.

On its return from the service at St. Mary's the civic procession formed immediately in front of the Exchange, and the massed bands of the Robin Hoods and the City

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Constabulary played the National Anthem, after which the detachments were marched off the square in silence, and the huge crowd gradually melted away.

A good proportion of the trained men of the battalion attended the first musketry standard test held for them on May 7th, directly after which the range was occupied for instructional practices by the first musketry party for the year.

Arrangements had been made for a short camp to be held at Whitsuntide on Trent Range, to which a small advance party, under the charge of the quartermaster, proceeded on the morning of Sunday, May 15th.

In the afternoon of that day the officers, N.C.O.'s, and recruits who had applied and been selected to attend, paraded in Station Street, and proceeded by special train to Trent, where the camp was pitched on the end of the range close to the warden's cottage.

Marching order was worn, and very little baggage allowed, the N.C.O.'s and men in nearly every case depending upon what their haversacks could carry for the two nights in camp.

A very enjoyable camp was experienced by all ranks, during which a very large amount of musketry instruction and recruits' tests were carried out, in addition to other training.

Recruits' instructional musketry practices occupied the whole of the first day, the adjutant and Permanent Staff N.C.O.'s being assisted in the supervision of the large number of recruits firing by company officers and N.C.O.'s; parties of recruits when not on the range received other instruction under company officers in the surrounding fields.

The second day of camp was occupied by a musketry standard test for recruits only; in fact, the camp had been originally arranged with this object in view alone, and for this purpose attendance was restricted to recruits, with a necessary complement of N.C.O.'s.

The expenditure of funds from Divisional Training Grants not being available for purposes of training which counted towards annual efficiency, special sanction for musketry to be carried out had to be obtained, with the understanding that other instruction was also to be given, and the travel-

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ling expenses paid through County Association administration.

The General Officer Commanding the Division visited the camp, and expressed his approval of the training in progress. A total of 20 officers and 302 N.C.O.'s and recruits attended this camp for two days, the detachment returning to Nottingham by rail on the Tuesday evening, after striking camp equipment, which was loaded by a small rear party principally consisting of the battalion's cooks.

Orders of May 20th notified that the Territorial Officer's Decoration had been conferred upon Quartermaster and Hon. Captain A. Poole, dated May 3rd. Captain Poole has well earned this decoration, the first to be granted to an officer of the Robin Hoods, and upon this distinction and the grant of his honorary majority to date April 1st, 1908, which was notified later in the past year, we offer him and Mrs. Poole the sincere congratulations of the battalion in which for so many years both have taken so keen an interest.

On May 20th, No. 190, Sergeant A. H. Cutts, C Company, was promoted to colour-sergeant, and transferred for duty to D (Captain F. Rayner's) Company. Also No. 284, Sergeant W. Horton, of H (Captain J. R. Hardstaff's) Company, was similarly promoted, *vice* No. 283, Colour-Sergeant J. Fidler, discharged on attaining the age limit for his rank.

In bidding a regimental, though we hope not an actual, farewell to Colour-Sergeant Fidler, we would like to add that in addition to his total service of 17 years and 244 days in the Robin Hoods, in which he was promoted corporal in April, 1900, sergeant in May of the same year, and colour-sergeant in November, 1902, and was granted the Volunteer Long Service Medal (on transfer to the Territorial Force) January 1st, 1909, he had served some five years in the Regular Army, joining the 95th Derbyshire Regiment, then under the command of the late Lieut.-Colonel C. F. Parkinson, when he claims to have first made the acquaintance of our present adjutant (in his perambulator !). From the 95th Colour-Sergeant Fidler obtained a transfer to the Connaught Rangers, with whom he saw service, being awarded the South African Medal of 1879.

Musketry at Trent throughout the greater part of May and June principally consisted of recruits' training.

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The first company drills to be held on the Forest were detailed for June 7th and 10th, two companies being allotted to each night, but the latter date was subsequently cancelled, and a parade of the whole battalion held on the 9th for inspection by General Archdale, commanding the division, who watched the companies at company drill, and expressed his approval of the parade in general, particularly remarking upon the steadiness and quietness of the rank and file.

Drills on the Forest continued twice a week for half-battalions or all companies until camp; the instruction being given by musketry at Trent throughout the latter portion of the month was principally confined to the instructional practice of recruits.

Drills for companies and recruits continued weekly in the Drill Hall or Corn Exchange.

The following competitions were fired in May: First Long Range, 23rd; Second Officers' Cup, 27th; 3rd Battalion Aggregate, 30th.

By this time the classes formed for beginners in special duties had been absorbed into the general work of the sections, the first aid lectures alone being continued.

Musketry standard tests for trained men were held early in the month, and for recruits on the 11th inst.

Company drills continued on the Forest two evenings per week, the Commanding Officer also inspecting in turn companies in marching order; subsequently one evening per week was allotted to battalion drill under the adjutant.

On Sunday, June 19th, the Annual Church Parade on the Market Place was held at 9.30 a.m., a large proportion of all ranks attending. In the absence of the Commanding Officer the parade was commanded by Lieut.-Colonel A. W. Brewill, V.D., and the battalion, accompanied by the City Divisions of the Officers' Training Corps, marched to St. Mary's Church for Divine Service, when the sermon was preached by the Rev. H. T. Hayman, Chaplain.

On the 10th inst. Lieutenant G. H. Stubington, who had passed a Maxim Gun Course at Hythe on June 8th, took over charge of the Machine Gun Section from Captain C. W. Milner.

On this date No. 163, Sergeant W. S. Lewitt of E Company,

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was appointed pioneer-sergeant, and No. 100, Lance-Corporal J. H. Soar, D Company, permanent cyclist orderly at headquarters, was promoted corporal, and appointed orderly-room clerk.

The training of musketry casuals continued, and in July a novel form of training was instituted for the first time, namely week-end camp, grants being obtained from Divisional Funds for this purpose, camp equipment having been retained on charge from the Whitsuntide camp. These camps were held on July 2nd, 16th, and 23rd, in a field adjoining Ferry Boat Inn, at Stoke Bardolph, the landlord of which, who had himself been with the Yeomanry in South Africa, and lost an arm in his country's service, very kindly afforded the necessary camping-ground at a nominal charge. Owing to a desire that the first camp should be devoted to work, and not regarded as an opportunity for sightseers, the exact locality was not published abroad, which earned for it in the local press the designation of "the mysterious camp." Detachments paraded on these dates, Saturdays, and marched to the camping-ground, accompanied by the battalion transport *personnel*, two G.S. wagons, the property of the County Association, being obtained for the conveyance of equipment.

The first detachment was limited to company officers and N.C.O.'s, under the command of the adjutant, and was particularly unfortunate in the weather it experienced, which consisted of continued showers of rain.

For instructional purposes the detachment was divided up into small sections of all ranks, each of which in turn took a hand at the different forms of work required to be carried out on the formation or striking of camps.

Early on Sunday morning instruction was afforded on different subjects by the adjutant and Permanent Staff, N.C.O.'s, and the medical officer, and after breakfast the party was ferried across the Trent, and marched to Divine Service, which was attended in the picturesque village church, by the kind invitation of the Rev. J. Morse, the Vicar, this sudden incursion of the forces of war raising quite a sensation in the quiet village. After dinner such further instruction as the weather permitted was afforded, and then all present turned to to strike camp, the detachment

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marching back to Nottingham after tea, and arriving in the city about 8 p.m., after a very creditable march.

A similar programme was carried out at the subsequent camps, at one of which details from all companies and the signallers attended, but instruction and administration were left in the hands of company officers. A total of 23 officers and 187 other ranks attended these camps, to two of which the colonel paid a visit of inspection.

Personal baggage was cut down to the lowest limits, officers being restricted to a valise, and N.C.O.'s and men to what they could carry in their haversacks, blankets being issued in camp.

Musketry standard tests for casuals of recruits and trained men were held on the 16th, 21st, and 23rd at Trent.

Notification having been received that the Annual Training Camp would be held as a division in the vicinity of Buxton, from July 31st to August 14th, forms of application for leave, for those who could not attend for the full period, were issued to O.C. Companies; these had to be returned for approval to battalion head-quarters some days prior to the commencement of camp, to enable notification to be sent to the G.O.C. of the numbers attending for each period in advance. Names were called for of officers wishing to attend any manœuvres in the following September, allowances and travelling expenses only being permitted this year. Eventually Captain B. E. Bailey was selected to attend, and Captain A. N. Lee, who had attended in the previous year, attached to the 2nd Battalion West Yorkshire Regiment, repeated his experience in that hospitable battalion, but not being officially selected, had to do so "at no expense to the public."

Shortly prior to camp training, we regret to say, opportunities had again to be specially given for certain members to complete the necessary ten drills to qualify for camp and as efficients for the year, as only twenty-eight drills had been already performed by every section in the battalion. This only again points to the fact that several do not take the trouble to comply with their annual training conditions, and trust to luck or paltry excuses to save them from unpleasant consequences.

The advance party, consisting of the quartermaster,

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Captain W. H. Newham, one Permanent Staff N.C.O., three other sergeants, and fifteen privates, proceeded to camp on July 28th; so efficiently were these administered, and with such a will did they work, that with the exception of drawing bedding, etc., little remained to be done on the battalion's arrival in camp on the following Sunday. A notification was published in orders in the following form: "Notice. Camp Address. (Rank, name, company, battalion.) Hindlow Camp, near Buxton," which probably accounted for the receipt during training by one member of a letter addressed "Mr. Thomas Atkins, R.H. Territorials, *Rank, name, company, battalion* (*sic*), Hindlow Camp, near Buxton."

The joyous incident reported from Scarborough Camp was apparently not repeated, where a recruit who had been informed by his tent mates that if he put his boots outside the tent door they would be found cleaned in the morning followed this advice, and gathered in at réveillé his County Association sandals thoroughly purified by the rain!

Captain H. Bradwell was detailed to the command of G Company for the training, Major P. M. Payne having unfortunately to obtain leave for the full period.

Head-quarters and the larger proportion of the battalion paraded at 1.40 p.m. on the Market Square on Sunday, July 31st, marched to the Midland station, and entrained in two special trains for Buxton, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel C. W. Birkin.

On arrival we had the gratification of unofficially learning that the battalion's discipline and rapidity in detraining had called forth exceptionally favourable comment in the highest quarters.

After an hour's march the camping-ground allotted to the brigade, at the extreme eastern limit of the divisional camp, was reached, and all soon settled down into their quarters.

The experience of passing through so large an assembly of troops was one that not many in the Robin Hoods had hitherto encountered, camps since the formation of the Territorial Force having been: 1908, battalion at Welbeck; 1909, brigade at Scarborough.

A provisional daily time-table of training detailed for

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the battalion throughout the camp had been printed and issued regimentally; this was in the main adhered to, the usual routine hours being: réveillé, 5 a.m.; early coffee, 5.30 a.m.; first parade, 6 a.m. to 7.45 a.m.; Breakfast, 8 a.m.; second parade, 9 to 12.30 p.m.; dinner, 1 p.m.; third parade, 2 to 3 p.m.

The first parade was usually confined to physical training and squad drill, the second to instruction under Company Commanders, varied by battalion tactical training, the third being again under Company Officers, or consisting of special training by officers and N.C.O.'s.

The training area available for the division covered a large tract of typical Derbyshire Peak country, being in places rocky and precipitous, and intersected with loose stone walls. The more level portions near camp were allotted for elementary training, and variation of surroundings for tactical instruction was effected by the frequent interchange between brigades of the larger divisions of the training area.

Tactical exercises by brigades or half-brigades were included in the period available, and on one night the battalion carried out night operations in conjunction with the 8th Battalion.

On one of these days the battalion visited Earl Sterndale, a little village in which stands the inn known as "The Silent Woman," the lady on the sign-board being depicted without a head.

On Sunday, August 7th, a party returned to Nottingham, and those attending for the second week only arrived in camp.

On the following afternoon a march by the whole division was carried out through Buxton, and by a circuitous route back to camp, the usual training having been performed in the morning.

This march aroused great enthusiasm amongst the inhabitants and visitors to the town, who turned out in numbers to watch the long line of troops pass through the streets. Amongst them we were glad to see Field-Marshal Lord Grenfell, an officer well known to the 2nd Battalion in Malta days.

The division passed in review before Brigadier-General Archdale, commanding, on its way out of the town.

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On the Wednesday night of this week the battalion joined in night operations with the county battalion. So far as the elements of darkness and enthusiasm of the combatants were concerned, nothing was left to be desired, but the limits imposed by peace conditions and training area led to unreal and impossible developments, and did not allow of much knowledge being gained except that in such operations anything but the simplest dispositions are apt to lead to confusion and spirited encounters with detached bodies of one's own force.

On Thursday, August 11th, the brigade as such carried out a rather more extended form of operations against a superior force represented by flags, than had hitherto been attempted.

On this date some companies performed prodigies of valour and physical exertion in assaults upon positions which would compare favourably with the renowned Spion Kop.

Whilst so engaged the brigade was inspected by the Inspector-General of the Forces, General Sir John French, who in his report expressed his approval of the standard of efficiency attained by the division. Divisional operations ordered for the last Friday had unfortunately to be cancelled at the last moment, owing to extremely bad weather, but not before practically every unit had reached its allotted position on the ground in torrents of rain.

On the 9th, on the occasion of a cricket match in which members of the Robin Hoods played at the Buxton Grounds, Colonel and Mrs. C. W. Birkin very kindly invited all ranks of the battalion to tea, of which hospitality all the officers and a large proportion of the N.C.O.'s and men who were not on duty availed themselves, the latter marching down to Buxton in a body headed by the bugles and drums. On the last evening of the camp a torchlight tattoo was held at Buxton by members of the Notts and Derby Brigade, the 6th, 7th, and 8th Battalions all furnishing their bands, bugles and drummers, and detachments, the 5th Battalion being unable to participate, having started to march back to Derby on that date.

The tattoo was held in the Public Gardens by arrangement with the Gardens Committee, who very kindly made all

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necessary arrangements, and handed over to the brigade half the gate money received for the afternoon and evening, which, after the deduction of expenses, left a sum of £52 8s 10d. This amount was forwarded on behalf of the brigade to General Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien, Colonel of the Sherwood Foresters, and President of the Old Comrades' Association, as a donation to the benevolent fund of the association.

Copies of Sir Horace's acknowledgment of this remittance, expressing his great appreciation of the assistance afforded by members of the brigade in this manner to a most deserving institution of the regiment, were, with his approval, printed and distributed to all battalions.

For the proposal to hold this most successful display we have primarily to thank Major G. D. Goodman, V.D., of the 6th Battalion, who devoted much time and trouble to carrying out the necessary arrangements, and obtaining the assistance of the Gardens Committee and the loan of the ground. The G.O.C. having notified his approval, and the officers commanding the battalions having kindly afforded the services of their bands, drummers, and buglers, all that was required were N.C.O.'s and men for duty as torchbearers and their training.

Volunteers were speedily forthcoming for the former and parties of 25 from the 6th and 8th Battalions, and one of 50 from the Robin Hoods, were selected.

Captain C. C. Parkinson, M.V.O., adjutant of the Robin Hoods, who had had previous experience in carrying out such matters, undertook the instruction of the detachments and arrangement of the programme of the tattoo.

The main credit for the great success of the display must, however, be given to the N.C.O.'s and men of the bands, and buglers, and drummers, and detachments from the three battalions.

These cheerfully gave up to practice for the tattoo several hours of their leisure time in camp, and, in spite of the fact that the number of rehearsals was extremely limited, their steadiness on the parade, and the interest they showed in the movements, brought about a result which was astonishing in its brilliance of execution.

The gardens on the evening of the tattoo were packed with onlookers, and from the tennis grand stand Field-

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Marshal Lord Grenfell, Brigadier-General Archdale, and numbers of visitors to Buxton watched the parade, the different figures carried out and contributions by the bands, buglers, and drummers, calling forth great applause.

On the conclusion of the programme Major Goodman and Captain Parkinson received the congratulations of the G.O.C. on the success of the programme, and instructions to convey his approval and thanks to the N.C.O.'s and men who had provided the evening's entertainment.

On the morning of Sunday, 14th, all ranks were early astir returning camp equipment to stores.

During this camp large marquee tents had been provided for dining purposes, each accommodating two companies. Unfortunately, owing to the contractor's supply of woodwork for tables and seating accommodation being burnt *en route* to the camp, these tents could not be used for this purpose for the first day or so in camp, but when this disaster had been made good the new method of messing met with general approval, the tents also providing accommodation for lectures, etc., on wet days.

Midday on the 14th saw the camp struck and the battalion on its march to Buxton, this last march proving one of the most trying of the training, the day being hot and oppressive, and during its progress the Robin Hoods barely maintained the reputation they had earned of being one of the smartest on the line of march in the division.

The weather during camp had not been particularly good, but on the whole probably the soakings we experienced at uncertain intervals proved more bearable than a scorching fortnight of unclouded weather would have done; certainly the climatic conditions experienced were more suitable to mountain-climbing than grilling hot days would have been.

Incidents of note were conspicuous by their absence during the training; the fire alarm, which is now beginning to be regarded as one of the annual camp standing dishes, was sounded somewhat unnecessarily one day, the fire only concerning a motor-car on the high road in the vicinity of camp.

On one occasion, whilst engaged in hill-climbing, our gallant medical officer performed a most humane and heroic action by interposing his bodily presence in the downward

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path of his charger, which sagacious animal had selected a most precipitous portion of the training area to execute a "back to the land" movement, followed by a rotary progress towards sudden death.

The prompt and energetic action of that officer, however, to whom in times of bodily distress we are wont to appeal, and whose enthusiastic efforts to instil into members of the battalion knowledge of first aid on occasions of emergency have not met with the response they merit, averted this impending disaster, and removed the probability of his becoming a foot soldier for the rest of camp.

Unfortunately this deed of heroism was not brought to notice in the proper quarters early enough, as otherwise a suitable recognition would doubtless have been forthcoming to decorate one of the top corners of his tunic.

The sergeants' mess held a most successful smoking concert in their mess tent, which was attended by the Colonel and officers. The president, in a speech welcoming the officers, stated how much the N.C.O.'s and men of the Robin Hoods appreciated the time and trouble Colonel Birkin had devoted to ensuring their comfort and the efficiency of the battalion, and the efforts that the officers had made to support him in those matters, further mentioning that this was probably the last camp at which the present adjutant would attend in an official capacity.

Colonel Birkin, in reply, thanked the members of the sergeants' mess for their hospitality and for the way in which the non-commissioned ranks had worked to bring the battalion to its existing standard of proficiency. The adjutant also expressed his thanks, and how great a pleasure his time with the Robin Hoods had been to him, and that in the Permanent Staff N.C.O.'s then with the battalion they possessed three of the best all-round N.C.O.'s they were likely to obtain for some time to come.

The battalion arrived in Nottingham soon after 2 p.m., and formed up in Station Street. Notification had been published in the local press that prior to dismissal the Robin Hoods would march by a circuitous route to the Market Place, and it is feared that a certain amount of disappointment was felt by the inhabitants when this route was considerably curtailed, owing to the heavy work and trying

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march the battalion had already performed since an early hour that day.

On dismissal the officers were entertained on behalf of the Mayor at the Exchange prior to their departure to their homes.

As usual after camp, training to the close of the year resolved itself into casuals' musketry, the machine gun section's annual course of firing, signallers' tests, and battalion shooting competitions.

We are glad to be able to record during the year great improvement in the efficiency of the special duties sections, signallers, machine gun, and transport. The officers and N.C.O.'s of these sections have devoted a great deal of trouble to the efficient training of their commands, but many more men are required to maintain the sections at their proper strength.

A small number of N.C.O.'s and men also attended for instruction in first aid and sanitary duties under the medical officer. Here again we require greatly increased attendance to obtain a good knowledge of these important duties throughout the battalion.

Space unfortunately does not permit us to dwell in detail on matters connected with these different technical forms of instruction which are so essential to the battalion's efficiency.

A call for recruits on August 23rd resulted in a squad of forty-four eventually commencing training. On October 8th an addition to musketry training was carried out in the shape of a field practice. This took the form of a Tile Competition, in which twenty-two teams restricted to the section commander and four men from each section competed, a prize of £5 being allotted by the Commanding Officer.

The winning team was from No. 1 Section of F Company, and consisted of Sergeant J. W. Herrod, Corporal Hall, Lance-Corporal Brindley, and Private Hopkinson (one man short).

Battalion Annual and Company Competitions also were completed before the close of the training year. A considerable number of musketry non-efficients had to receive special opportunities to complete their requirements at the last moment, which gave rise to the usual trouble in completing annual returns by the proper date.

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2nd Lieutenants L. C. Brewill, G. H. R. Mellers, and A. M. Williams qualified in Examination A, held in Nottingham on October 15th.

The first orders of the battalion to be issued from the new temporary head-quarters, 139 Derby Road, were dated September 30th, 1910.

This change of head-quarters was due to the commencement of the demolition of Park Hill House, 168 Derby Road, which had served as the battalion's head-quarters.

Seven companies entered for Colonel Sir Charles Seely's Shield Marching and Shooting Competition, which took place on the morning of October 8th, and was won by A (Captain A. N. Lee's) Company.

From the end of October to the close of the year little remains to record except the return of arms to store, and issue of boot allowance.

In December all military matters were eventually obscured in the toil of the second Parliamentary election in the twelve months.

The following announcements in the *London Gazette* were made after camp :—

August 16th. 2nd Lieutenant G. H. Stubington to be Lieutenant, to date July 18th, 1909 (previous year).

October 7th. Quartermaster and Hon. Captain W. H. Newham is granted the honorary rank of Major, dated October 25th, 1909 (previous year).

October 14th. Lieutenant A. T. Mulhall, R.A.M.C., T.F., attached, to be Captain, dated June 15th, 1910.

We have further to record the loss of the services of the following senior N.C.O.'s on discharge :—

No. 83, Colour-Sergeant A. A. Young, D Company, whose total service was 23 years and 92 days, and who was granted the Volunteer Long Service Medal May 1st, 1907.

No. 354, Colour-Sergeant W. A. Pritchard, F Company, whose total service was 12 years and 244 days, was granted the Territorial Efficiency Medal January 1st, 1910.

No. 74, Sergeant S. R. Gillon, D Company, total service 19 years 310 days, granted the Volunteer Long Service Medal January 1st, 1909.

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No. 249, Sergeant J. Atkin, F Company, total service 14 years 113 days, granted the Territorial Efficiency Medal January 1st, 1909, and was also awarded the Queen's South African Medal.

We now come to the outstanding feature of this year's contribution to the Regimental Annual, namely the contributions from each company, and from the different sections and institutions, to whom so many appeals have gone out for copy.

On referring to the battalion correspondents' file, though, we regret to find that in the case of A, B, C, D, E, F, G, and H Companies the supply is nil. The contributions from the different duty sections and other battalion institutions can unfortunately be summed up in the same manner, with the exception of the football club, whose record of matches arrives as this manuscript is going to the post, already having called down the remonstrances of our worthy Editor.

We regret, therefore, that we can only record that the club has had a good season, thanks to the interest and energy displayed by its treasurer, Captain E. H. Spalding, and the hon. secretary, Corporal A. Parker, coupled with the keenness of its limited members, and out of the last forty matches played has scored ten victories and three draws.

At the close of the year our company officers are posted as follows :—

A Co. Captain A. N. Lee, 2nd Lieutenants D. P. Forman and K. Y. McCraith.

B Co. Captains H. Hanson and O. W. Hind, Lieutenant L. L. Cooper.

C Co. Captains L. A. Hind, H. Bradwell, and C. W. Milner.

D Co. Captains F. Rayner, and W. R. Rook, 2nd Lieutenant G. H. R. Mellers.

E Co. Captain B. E. Bailey, 2nd Lieutenants L. C. Brewill and A. M. Williams.

F Co. Captain E. H. Spalding, Lieutenant G. H. Stubington and 2nd Lieutenant J. C. Boot.

G Co. Captain and Hon. Major P. M. Payne, Lieutenant G. H. Black, and 2nd Lieutenant C. F. Hammond.

H Co. Captain J. R. Hardstaff and Lieutenant T. S. Black.

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PERSONAL

With great regret we have to record the death in October, 1910, of Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel T. Wright, who was enrolled as surgeon of the Robin Hood Rifles on March 2nd, 1860, with rank of Major from that date. He was promoted Lieutenant-Colonel February 1st, 1889, and resigned January 14th, 1893.

In his death the Robin Hoods have to mourn the loss of one of their first officers, who always took a keen interest in the corps' doings from its earliest years of existence.

We congratulate those officers and N.C.O.'s who have received promotion in the past year.

Our congratulations are also due to Lieutenant T. S. Black on his marriage.

Also to the Adjutant and Mrs. Parkinson on the birth of their son on June 23rd, 1910, to whom the officers of the Robin Hoods presented a birthday gift in the form of a handsome silver rose bowl.

Also to Captain and Mrs. Hanson on the birth of a son.

In taking farewell of Acting Sergeant-Major T. Murphy, on his discharge to pension on January 12th, 1911, after twenty-three years' service, all ranks convey their appreciation of his services on the Permanent Staff, and wish him every success in civilian life, where it is satisfactory to learn that he has obtained immediate employment. Sergeant-Major Murphy enlisted on January 13th, 1888, was posted to the Robin Hood Rifles' Permanent Staff on June 1st, 1904, and appointed Acting Sergeant-Major on September 21st, 1909.

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ROLL OF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND MEN GRANTED THE TERRITORIAL FORCE EFFICIENCY MEDAL 1910.

Regtl. No.	Rank and Name.		Remarks.
344	Corporal	Daft, W. H.	1/1/10
595	Private	Dexter, F. W.	,,
79	,,	Green, G.	,,
86	,,	Hall, P.	,,
277	,,	Johnson, J.	,,
412	,,	Justice, D.	,,
831	,,	Kirby, S.	,,
354	Cr.-Sergeant	Pritchard, W. R.	,,
305	Sergeant	Richardson, W. G.	,,
276	Private	Stevenson, J.	,,
550	Corporal	Henshaw, J.	1/4/10
132	Lce.-Corporal	Rigley, G. H.	,,
275	Cr.-Sergeant	Russell, E. E.	,,
380	Private	Thompson, W.	,,
205	,,	Wood, W.	,,
178	Corporal	Cave, R. E. C.	,,
34	,,	Metheringham, T.	1/7/10
50	Lce.-Corporal	Whitworth, A. E.	,,
337	,,	Rideout, G. P. H.	,,
391	,,	Issac, E.	,,

C. C. P.

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XV

8TH BATTALION NOTES

THE strength of the battalion is substantially the same as it was last year, and the urgent necessity of our obtaining full numbers still remains. We are pleased to say, however, that the prospects of success are considerably better than they were a year ago. As the Eastwood district proved a failure for recruiting from, the men obtained from that place were transferred to the Kimberley Company, and recruiting was started at Sutton-in-Ashfield. The efforts made were successful, and sixty men were easily obtained. These, under the command of Lieutenant Weeks, formed the nucleus of C Company in camp this year. Since camp a recruiting march of D and C Companies, assisted by the bugle band, took place, and a full number of recruits was easily obtained at Sutton-in-Ashfield.

We heartily congratulate Lieutenant Weeks on the success of his efforts and his prospects of taking a complete company to camp next year.

The Mansfield and Worksop Companies are also up to strength, but recruits are still urgently wanted in the other companies of the battalion. We must again ask why Nottinghamshire should lag behind, when two other battalions of the brigade are practically up to strength.

We must congratulate Colonel H. Mellish on his many successes at Bisley this year; Time has evidently taken no toll of him.

We regret to have to record that Major Elliot-Smith and Captain R. F. B. Hodgkinson are no longer with us, the latter officer, however, having transferred to the Territorial Reserve. Captain Tylden-Wright is to be congratulated on having obtained Mr. Allen as his subaltern.

The special feature of this year's work has been the great

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attention which has been paid to the training of the N.C.O.'s of the battalion. The Brigadier, Colonel Murray, has frequently pointed out the absolute necessity that all section and squad commanders should be able to instruct their commands in every branch of military knowledge. With this end in view work during the winter and summer months was carried out. The result has without doubt been satisfactory, and the battalion now possesses a body of non-commissioned officers who are not only keen soldiers, but who are also able to impart to their men the knowledge they have themselves acquired. There is still much to do; perfection is not reached so easily nor in such a short time, but the prospect so far is encouraging.

A week-end camp was held at Worksop at Whitsuntide on the old camping-ground at Sparken Hill, which was attended by C and D Companies, under the command of Captain A. C. Clarke. In spite of the wet weather, much useful work, including instructional practices on the rifle range, was carried out.

The battalion attended its first Divisional Camp at Hindlow, near Buxton, from July 31st to August 14th. Unfortunately the weather was not good, but much useful work was done, interest being greatly increased by seeing the other brigades of the division and the other troops. In addition to the officers who are no longer on the strength, we were without Major T. W. Huskinson, who we heard was wrestling with Form IV, and Captain H. Kentish-Wright, absent through ill-health. We are most pleased to be able to add that this latter officer, after a dangerous operation, has now practically recovered, and we have every hope that he will be in camp with us next year.

Sergeant-Major Offord was attached to the Divisional Head-quarters during camp, his place being taken by Colour-Sergeant Instructor H. Girling. The battalion was lucky in obtaining one of the best sites available for its camp—on high ground and near the training areas, and well away from the dust and traffic of the division.

The Annual Prize Meeting of the battalion was held at Collingham on June 24th and 25th. There was much rain on both days. Corporal Jones, of D Company, again headed the prize list in the battalion prizes with the same score of 88,

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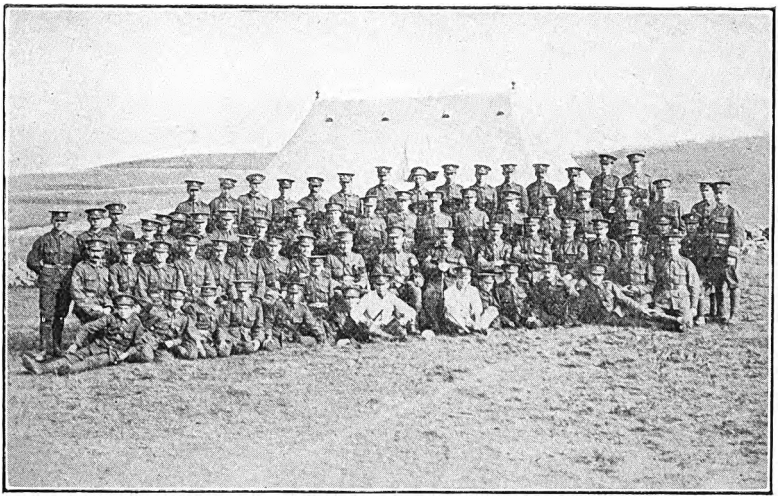

F Co. 8th BTN.

Winners of Drill Cup for 1910.

NOTTS AND DERBY BRIGADE.

A Pow-wow.

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Private Powell, of B Company, being second with a score of 85.

The Recruits' Prize was won by Private Marshall, of G Company, with a score of 56 out of 70.

The Ten Years' Service Medal and Twenty Years' Cross were both won by Colour-Sergeant Taylor, of A Company.

The Officers' Snuff Box was won by Lieutenant Martyn.

The Company Challenge Cup was won by the Retford Company with a score of 305, Newark being second with 268.

The competitions for the Chaplain's and Lady Ossington's Cups were held on September 17th at Epperstone and Worksop respectively. The conditions for these Cups are now identical, and they will be shot for by the four northern and four southern companies in alternate years. These are "Team" shoots designed to stimulate rivalry between section and squad commanders.

The Chaplain's Cup was won by E Company, the Lady Ossington Cup by C Company.

Our Hon. Colonel, Lord Manvers, has very kindly presented a subtarget-machine to the battalion. This is going the round of the companies during the winter months, and should substantially improve their musketry returns.

The Drill Cup was won for the year by F Company, A Company being second—a reversal of last year's result.

At a meeting of company officers held in camp it was decided to start company football clubs. Unfortunately time was not sufficient for full arrangements to be made for this winter, many men being already booked for their local clubs. Consequently G Company alone have a team this season. It is hoped, however, that next season all companies will have their teams in full swing. These should help greatly in getting recruits all over the county. There is no doubt that the love of the game is an important factor with many eligible young men, and hitherto may have hindered many from joining the force. These are the men we want and now hope to get.

It is with great sorrow that we must now record the loss which the battalion has suffered by the fact that Captain Hobbs has now completed his term as Adjutant with us, and has rejoined the 2nd Battalion. He won the affection of all ranks while with us, and we wish him the best of luck in

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his new position. We take the opportunity of welcoming his successor, Captain Hume, who, as he comes from the same battalion that Captain Hobbs has rejoined, whose company in fact he has taken, we feel is already a friend.

In closing we must heartily congratulate Captain and Quartermaster Sarll on obtaining his well-earned majority, coupling our good wishes with the hope that for many years to come he will minister to our bodily wants in camp and elsewhere as he has already for so long done so effectively.

G. H. F.

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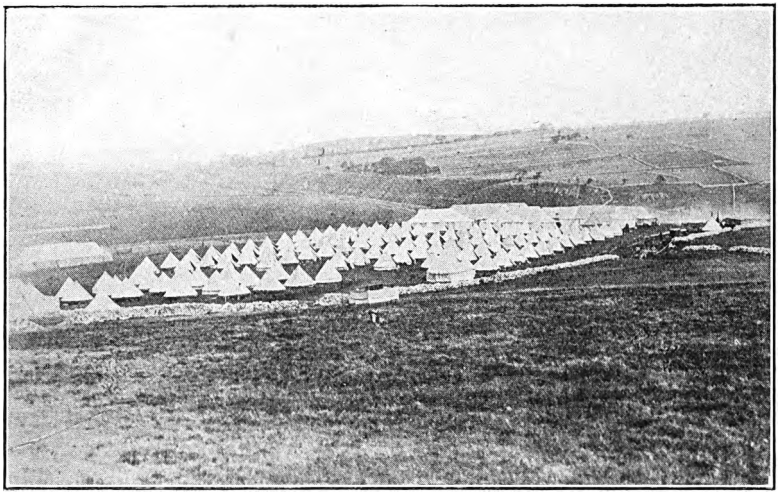
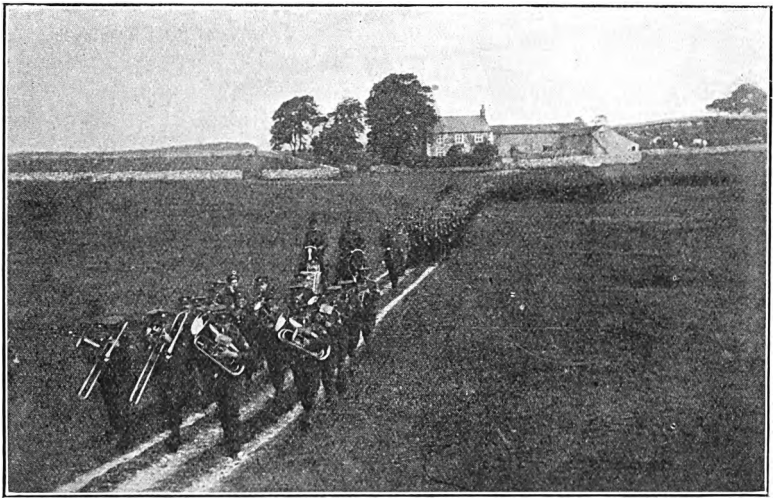


8TH BTN. CAMP, 1910.



8TH BTN.

MARCHING OUT FOR A DIVISIONAL FIELD DAY.

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XVI

"EHEU FUGACES, POSTUME, POSTUME, ANNI LABUNTUR."

I WAS not regimentally born a "Sherwood Forester"; on the contrary, I was only exalted to that honour, as a reward for twelve years' arduous service in what I will call "Th' Ould Ridgmint." Those were the days before it was discovered that brains were necessary for the regimental officer, and I thank the Lord I lived in them.

My recruit's drill was put in at Colchester, with the 88th Connaught Rangers, at that time a smart, well-turned-out body of men, very Irish indeed, as may be supposed, recruited as they were almost entirely from the County Galway and the wilds of Connemara. Returning to camp late one night, in company with Lieutenant Romer of the Essex Rifles Militia, we were challenged. "Halt! Who goes that?" said the sentry, to whom Romer promptly replied, "The Devil." "Pass Devil, and go to hell," shouted the sentry without a moment's hesitation, resuming the walk on his beat.

The Irish regiments were then filled with Irishmen, and a wilder or cheerier community than "Th' Ould Ridgmint" never existed. It was exceptional for a private soldier of some service to have less than six defaulter sheets, and the "Angel's Whisper" usually produced some thirty defaulters, and I have even known over sixty, after some special "divarshin."

I remember a charge against Private O'Gorman, at Halifax, N.S. On the guard report appeared the words, "Pushing down a house on Gottingen Street." The man was certainly a Samson in appearance, but it must be explained that the

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houses in Halifax were mostly built of wood, on stone foundations.

A curious incident occurred at Halifax, one Christmas Day, when it appeared that, for some reason or other, G Company were dissatisfied with their dinners. When the Colonel went the usual rounds, the barrack rooms of G Company were closed, and the men had "gone to bed"! However, they did not remain there long, for soon there sounded G Company call and fall in for fatigue. They had, to express their indignation, thrown their Christmas puddings into the barrack square, and it was to remove these that they were summoned, and this they accomplished to the cheers and jeers of the rest of the battalion, who were highly amused. The Irish soldier is a good fellow, but childish in a way, and can best be managed by making the "punishment fit the crime," for he has a great sense of humour.

The C.O.'s orderly in this regiment was a very comical old fellow of twenty-five years' service, who was known to all ranks as "ould Billy Carroll." He was as hard as nails, and it was an institution in the battalion (which he highly prized) that he might get drunk with impunity on two days in each year, viz. St. Patrick's Day and the Queen's Birthday. On one of these occasions he was found next morning in the orderly room, with his head in the waste-paper basket.

In 1877 I was on parade with the battalion in Cork Barracks as Acting Adjutant. The Colonel saw "ould Billy" sprinting round the square for all he was worth, and sent me to call him. On coming before the C.O. Billy shouted breathlessly, before the whole regiment, "Arrah! Don't stop me, sor, or I'll not get the whiskey," which sent every one into fits, and off he started again. It transpired later that an officer of the 3rd D.G.'s had promised him a bottle of John Jameson, if he did four rounds of the square, in a given time, during parade hours.

"Th' Ould Ridgmint" was once quartered in Malta, and there was a certain Colonel of Malta Militia on the roster for field officer of the day. Now the men hated to be "turned out" by a "Smaitch," and one night as the sentry paced his beat in front of the main guard this Colonel rode up and called, "Turn out ze gaird." The sentry took no notice, and

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continued his beat. The field officer naturally got very irate, and again shouted, "You, santery! Why you not turn out ze gaird?" To which the man replied in tones of scorn, "G'wan, ye b—y Armanian."—"But I am ze field officer of ze day." "G'wan home, thin," said the sentry. "What the hell are ye doin' thrapesin' round here in the noight toime?" The sentry was tried by court martial, I may add, and was awarded a sentence of fourteen days' imprisonment, which deeply offended the field officer, who thought he should have got five years' penal servitude at least.

In 1884 I was at Rawal Pindi, and was ordered to draw up a report on an outpost scheme, which at that time was to me a novel and somewhat alarming sensation. My report was a trifle frivolous, but I remember only one phrase, viz. "The line of retreat is presumably towards the rear." Unfortunately this report was sent in to General Sir Thomas Gordon, the result being that I had it back with the G.O.C.'s remarks, which were of a scathing nature, and ended thus: "If Lieutenant —— considers these remarks hypercritical, I shall be pleased to see him at my office at 12 noon to-morrow." A pretty state of affairs for me! I was not keen to interview the G.O.C. in the heat of the day, nor did I wish to inconvenience him, so I entered on the memo., "Far be it from me to presume the observations of the G.O.C. to be in any sense hypocritical." I did not go to the Head-quarter office, but alas! my poor confidential report!

In 1883 we were in North Camp, Aldershot, and had a very easy time of it during the winter months. Now there was a certain musical, but very irascible, Major in the regiment, who affected the violoncello. He had arranged one day to convey this instrument to London with him to take part in a concert at a house in Portman Square. It was a precious instrument, so he had it placed in a four-wheeler, which waited outside the mess hut while he took a hurried lunch. He had not reckoned, poor man, on the subalterns, with whom gut-scraping was an unpopular sport; so while one ruffian entertained him at lunch, another abstracted the instrument from its case in the cab, replaced it in the Major's hut, hanging the key on the now empty box, and off drove the victim in a hurry to the station to catch his train. The sequel came out afterwards. The 'cello case was brought

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into the drawing-room by two portly footmen, and was opened with great importance by the Major, who discovered it had nothing in it, except a card, on which appeared the words, "You B Flat." It was declared that he expressed himself very rudely, and I can well believe it.

I could tell you many more yarns of this fine old corps, which has now the advantage of being under the command of our popular Colonel at Aldershot, but I must get to the "Sherwood Foresters." I was promoted into the old 45th in 1886, and found myself at the Curragh for musketry. While there, a sensational cricket match took place between the 45th and 24th Regiments. The latter had preceded us at Kilkenny, and were favourites with the natives for the match. The Foresters lost no opportunity of taking any odds they could get, and as it turned out they spoiled the Egyptians. That well-known cricketer, Mr. Wingham, was at that time on the strength of H Company, though detached for duty as groundsman at Dover (I think), and so we brought him over for the match, and well it was we did so, for he made a big score. The finish was breathlessly exciting, for the 24th wanted only five runs with three wickets to fall—of these they obtained two when Sergeant Wilders went on to bowl and did the "hat trick," the 45th winning a keenly-contested match by three runs. The excitement at the close was tremendous, as may be supposed.

There is a record (still, I believe, with the 1st Battalion) of a single-wicket match between two officers, which took place at Kilkenny about 1886, concerning which the local paper observed that "in the second innings of Captain A, Captain B bowled one wide, and one *straight* ball." It further informed its readers that "had not Captain A been unfortunately bowled" (oh, that *straight* ball!) "he would probably have made a larger score."

If you are not already dreadfully bored, Mr. Editor, more varied experiences, this time with an Irish Militia Battalion, during embodiment at Dublin. This queer crowd was commanded by a gentleman who had, years ago, served a short time in a Prussian Uhlan Regiment. He had no knowledge of drill or administration, as practised in *our* service, and never could get out the right word of command on parade. He was very keen, however, and anxious that his battalion

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should make a good show at G.O.C.'s inspection. He therefore explained to the men beforehand that he would give a long pause between his cautionary and executive words of command, so that all ranks would have time to ponder over and digest them.

The G.O.C. arrived and requested the Uhlan to move his battalion about. With great confidence he shouted, "Move to the *right* in fours" (long pause). "Form fours *left*," which naturally upset the whole bag of tricks.

His administration was equally peculiar. I was in the orderly-room, when a corporal was marched a prisoner before him.

"Will you take my award?" said the C.O., who evidently contemplated putting the corporal summarily into cells. "Sure, I'd rather be tould off by th' Adjutant," said the man. "Severely reprimanded and ten days to barracks," said the C.O. "God, Colonel, you can't do that!" whispered the Adjutant. "The man is a full corporal." "Oh, yes," said the Colonel. "I remit the C.B. March him out, Sergt.-Major."

I had the honour to command F Company of the 2nd Battalion Royal Garrison Regiment at Gibraltar in 1901 and 1902, and had under me several old soldiers of the 45th and 95th Regiments. I am sending you a photograph of the "old comrades, Sherwood Foresters," taken at the time. I have never seen such a regiment before or since. At G.O.C.'s inspection we stood 1470 on parade, not a man with less than twelve years' service, and nearly every man decorated. We had men from all regiments (G and H Companies, all Highlanders) and every department of the Army, and it was a privilege to serve with them.

I am told, Mr. Editor, that the service is different now. That one cannot hunt five days a week, that one cannot even be certain of Friday to Monday leave. This is a great change since *my* day, and I sincerely trust that there has been a corresponding change for the better in the nominal pay which we used to receive, or were *supposed* to receive, for on more than one occasion in India, on settlement day, the paymaster's face has had a more cheerful expression than mine.

There seems a terrible lot of eye-wash about this narrative,

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but I (*there* it is again) am at present training mice (field mice, in the field exercise) to assist the police in dealing with suffragettes at platform meetings. I have not yet received any tangible acknowledgment from the ladies, nor have I been decorated by any foreign potentate, but I live in hopes.

Finally, permit me to remind you, Mr. Editor, that *you* are responsible for all that appears in our Annual, and that the wrath of the "Old Stubborns" must not be allowed to descend on

"ξάλοβ."

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XVII

REGIMENTAL DINNER, 1ST AND 2ND BATTALIONS. 45TH AND 95TH REGIMENTS

THE Regimental Dinner of 1910 was cancelled at short notice, owing to the lamented decease of the late King, and of the year's subscriptions which had been received and which remained unexpended, £25 was handed over to the Benevolent Fund of the Old Comrades' Association.

The Dinner for 1911 will take place, as in 1909, at Claridge's Hotel, Brook Street, W., on the Thursday in Derby week—June 1st. It is hoped that the same dining and drawing-rooms will be available which were placed at the disposal of the Dinner Committee two years ago.

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XVIII

A SERGEANT-MAJOR OF THE 95TH REGIMENT

WE take the following from *The Naval and Military Gazette and East India and Colonial Chronicle* (*The Broad Arrow*), dated August 22nd, 1835 :—

"95th.—Lieut.-Colonel Campbell presented to Sergeant-Major A. Ellis, on parade at Fermoy, on the 4th inst., a handsome silver cup, in the name of himself and the officers of the corps, in testimony (on his retiring from the regiment) of their estimation of his meritorious conduct during the ten years he discharged the duties of sergeant-major of the regiment. This gallant soldier served his King and country for twenty-nine years, and, while in the 7th Fusiliers, was present at most of the hard-fought actions in the Peninsula, as well as in America and elsewhere."

Sergeant-Major Ellis would seem, then, to have joined the 95th Regiment about August, 1825, when stationed at Malta, and a few months prior to its assumption of the title of "the Derbyshire" Regiment. Further—as in July of this year an officer had been brought in to command the 95th from the 7th Fusiliers, Bt. Lieut.-Colonel A. C. Wylly, C.B.—it seems probable that this officer applied for the transfer of Sergeant-Major Ellis from his old to his new corps.

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XIX

THE OFFICIAL HISTORY OF THE WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA

IN Vol. IV, Appendix 16, of the above the following casualties are given as having occurred in the regiment :—

1ST BATTALION

	K. or D. of W.	D. of D.	W.	Captured.	M.	Total.
Officers	2	1	13	0	0	16
Other Ranks ..	57	44	137	2	2	242

2ND BATTALION

Officers	1	0	3	0	0	4
Other Ranks ..	12	10	33	0	1	56

In the case of the 1st Battalion all these casualties are shown as having occurred in the Cape, Orange River, and Transvaal Colonies ; in the case of the 2nd Battalion the following—out of the above figures—are shown as having taken place in Natal :—

	K. or D. of W.	D. of D.	W.	Captured.	M.	Total.
Officers	1	0	1	0	0	2
Other Ranks ..	4	0	13	0	1	18

As regards the 1st Battalion the official figures do not agree with those published on p. 202 of Captain Gilson's *History*, which are :—

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	K. or D. of W.	D. of D.	W.	Captured.	M.	Total.
Officers	1 ..	1 ..	9 ..	0 ..	0 ..	11
Other Ranks ..	64* ..	52 ..	141 ..	0 ..	0 ..	257

The totals of officers killed in the two battalions appear to have been transposed by the official historian, the 1st Battalion having *one* officer killed or died of wounds (2nd Lieut. Mills), and the 2nd Battalion *two* (Lieuts. Attfield and Howell).

* Includes five men drowned on patrol.

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XX

OUR OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION

Benevolent Fund

ONE of the most important events of the Association during the past year was the issue of an appeal by the Lords-Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire to the inhabitants of their counties, for subscriptions on behalf of the Benevolent Fund. This was initiated by Lieut.-General Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien, K.C.B., D.S.O., A.D.C., the President of the Association.

A copy of this appeal is shown below.

The Committee take this opportunity of offering the thanks of all ranks of the Association to the Duke of Devonshire and the Duke of Portland, to R. S. W. Sitwell, Esq., the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the 6th, 7th, and 8th Battalions, the Officers' Dinner Fund, H. M. Gray, Esq., and the many other ladies and gentlemen who have so generously subscribed to the Fund.

The Association is indebted to the Officer Commanding 2nd Battalion for his kindness and generosity in undertaking the printing free of charge of 10,000 copies of the letter of appeal.

The subscription list is being kept open for some little time, and it is hoped further donations may be received.

Appeal from the Lords-Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire

THE DUKE OF PORTLAND
AND
THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE
TO
THE INHABITANTS OF THE TWO COUNTIES

In 1907 past and present members of the two Regular Battalions of the Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Counties Regiment instituted an Old Comrades' Association for the purpose of fostering the regimental spirit

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and of bringing together the past and present members of these battalions for an Annual Dinner to be held alternately at Nottingham and Derby.

These two battalions, the old 45th and 95th Foot, have been associated with their counties since their formation in 1747 and 1823 respectively, and have always borne and been known by the titles of the two counties, although it was not until 1881 that they became linked together and known under the joint title of "THE NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND DERBYSHIRE—THE SHERWOOD FORESTERS—REGIMENT."

The Regiment is recruited almost entirely from the two counties, and has its depot and the permanent home of the Corps in their midst, and it is not too much to say that throughout the many wars in which it has been engaged, it has never failed to bring honour to itself and to the counties from which it springs.

It can easily be understood, in acquiring this honour, and in serving the country in distant and often unhealthy parts of the Realm, not only have the soldiers of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire frequently become incapacitated by wounds and disease from earning a living for themselves and their families, but many have lost touch with the labour market, and found it impossible to obtain work on their return to civil life, and in order to help such cases, one of the first actions of the Old Comrades' Association after its inauguration was the formation of a Benevolent Fund.

Up to the present the income of this fund has been derived from subscriptions of serving officers, non-commissioned officers and men, and members of the Association, a restricted and far from wealthy community, and the growth of the fund is, in consequence, very slow, with the result that it has only been possible, out of the many cases which appeal for help, to deal with those of extreme distress.

The object of this circular is to appeal to all classes in the two counties to show their liberality by giving donations with a view to raising such a sum of money as will, when invested, ensure a regular income. The hope is that this income may be large enough, when added to the annual subscriptions from the two battalions, and the members of the Old Comrades' Association, to make it possible to widen the field of assistance to needy cases to a very appreciable extent.

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The Regiment has not forgotten what was done for them during the war in South Africa by the men and women of the two counties. Large sums of money were collected and there was never any lack of helpers to carry on the work of assisting stricken soldiers returning from the front, supporting at home the dependents of men fighting their country's battles, and collecting and sending out comforts to those still in South Africa ; and it is the memory of that generous help which has emboldened the Regiment to hope that their present appeal may meet with a liberal response.

The fund is at present administered by the full Colonel of the Regiment, Lieut.-General Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien, K.C.B., D.S.O., A.D.C. GEN., and a Committee, and it is hoped that as funds increase it may be possible to assist under the following headings :—

1. To give immediate temporary assistance in all cases of real need.

2. To assist non-commissioned officers and men on leaving the Colours :—

(*a*) To obtain employment.
(*b*) In the expense of moving to take up work in a new part of the United Kingdom.
(*c*) In emigrating to our Colonies, either by donation or loan.
(*d*) With medical aid and weekly allowance in sickness.
(*e*) In meeting funeral expenses.
(*f*) In admittance to convalescent homes.

3. To provide cottage homes for aged pensioners of the Regiment.

The Committee are considering the desirability of invoking the help of the representatives of the Soldiers and Sailors' Help Society in the several districts of the two counties, with a view to getting into touch with needy cases of old soldiers of the Regiment, but this will only become desirable should the funds increase to such an extent as to make it possible to extend their assistance to such cases.

Donations may be paid to The Union of London and Smith's Bank, at Nottingham and Derby ; J. A. H. Green, Esq.,

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Hartland, The Park, Nottingham ; or to Godfrey Mosley, Esq., St. Mary's Gate, Derby. But, to save these gentlemen trouble, it is preferable to pay direct into the Bank. All subscriptions will be acknowledged through the local press.

Nothing could exceed the generous spirit shown by the managers of almost all the county papers, when asked to assist in forwarding this excellent project. Those mentioned below have agreed to make mention of it in their columns, and to publish lists of subscribers, either free of charge or on exceedingly liberal terms ; and we take this opportunity of offering them our thanks.

The Mansfield and North Notts Advertiser.
The Mansfield Reporter.
The Newark Herald.
The Nottingham Daily Express and *The Nottinghamshire Weekly Express.*
The Nottingham Daily Guardian.
The Retford and Worksop Herald.
The Retford, Worksop, Isle of Arholme, and Gainsborough News.
The Retford, Worksop, and Gainsborough Times.
The Worksop Guardian.
The Sheffield Daily Telegraph.
The Sheffield Daily Independent.
The Derbyshire Advertiser.
The Derby Reporter and *Derby Daily Telegraph.*
The Derby Mercury and *Derby Daily Express.*
The Derbyshire Times.
The Pioneer.
The Ilkeston Advertiser.
The Derbyshire Courier.
The Glossop-dale Chronicle.
The High Peak News.
The Buxton Advertiser.

DEVONSHIRE,

Lord-Lieutenant of the County of Derby.

PORTLAND,

Lord-Lieutenant of the County of Nottingham.

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COPY OF A LETTER FROM LIEUT.-GENERAL SIR HORACE L. SMITH-DORRIEN, K.C.B., D.S.O., A.D.C., COLONEL OF THE SHERWOOD FORESTERS (NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND DERBYSHIRE REGIMENT), PRESIDENT OF "THE OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION." ADDRESSED TO THE ADJUTANT, 7TH (ROBIN HOOD) BATTALION.

Government House,
South Farnborough, Hants,
August 26th, 1910.

My dear Parkinson,

It is a long time since I have had such a pleasant surprise as your letter of August 23rd, telling me of the generous action of the 6th, 7th, and 8th Battalions, in getting up a Torchlight Entertainment, and sending the proceeds to the Regimental Benevolent Fund.

Will you convey to Major Goodman, and the Bands, Bugles and Drums of the three battalions, as well as to the non-commissioned officers and men who took part, my warmest appreciation of their action?

You know, I think, how hard I have been working to raise a substantial sum with a view to investing it to give us a permanent income for helping old soldiers of the Regiment. The appeal on the subject, signed by the Lords-Lieutenant of our counties, the Dukes of Devonshire and Portland, are about to be circulated amongst the inhabitants of Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire.

The two Dukes have most generously headed the subscription list with £100 each. The Regimental Dinner Fund appears as giving £25, and this £52 8s. 10d. will appear as the proceeds of a Torchlight Tattoo, presented by the performers of the 6th, 7th, and 8th Battalions. I am giving a humble £10 from myself, so we shall start our list with nearly £300.

I imagine that military performances in any of the large

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towns of Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire are pretty certain to attract considerable audiences, and I cannot help hoping that the example set by the 6th, 7th, and 8th Battalions may be followed by others in future years, and, if it is, I feel sure that our difficulties in helping old soldiers of the Regiment in the autumn of their days may be very materially lessened.

Thanking you for the action you have taken in the matter,

Yours sincerely,

H. L. SMITH-DORRIEN.

LIST OF CASES RELIEVED BY THE BENEVOLENT FUND DURING THE PAST YEAR

1. Ex-Sergeant W. S. Suffering from heart disease. Married, and 9 children. Compelled to seek relief from parish.
   Granted £1 10s. (weekly payments of 5s.), January, 1910.
   Granted £1 10s. (spent in clothing for family), September, 1910.
2. Ex-Sergeant R. H. Served 14 years. Age 61. Unable to follow employment through sickness.
   Granted £2 (weekly payments of 5s.), February, 1910.
   Granted 10s., March, 1910.
3. Ex-Private J. L. Served 15 years. Lost a leg in civil employment, and undergone several operations. Served in Tirah and South African Campaigns. Married, and 5 children.
   Granted £1 (spent in clothing), February, 1910.
4. Ex-Private J. L. Served 16 years. In workhouse infirmary, undergoing operation. Married, and 5 children. Home disposed of to provide food.
   Granted £1, February, 1910.
   Granted £1, March, 1910.
5. Ex-Private A. B. Served 8 years. Invalided from South Africa with consumption. Only support of widowed mother.
   Placed in a sanatorium at a cost of £5, May, 1910.

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6. Ex-Private J. W. Served 13 years. In India 11 years. Age 72. Pension of 4d. *per diem*. Laid up with sickness.
   Granted £2 (weekly payments of 5s.), August, 1910.

7. Ex-Private H. R. Served 9 years. Disabled and invalided from South Africa, and since undergone three operations. Unfit for any employment. Married, and 3 children.
   Granted £2, May, 1910.

8. Ex-Private H. Served 10 years. Tirah and South African Campaigns. Suffering from consumption (since deceased).
   Granted £2, October, 1910.

9. Ex-Sergeant J. F. Served 14 years. Tirah Campaign. A patient in hospital for consumptives. No clothing with which to leave hospital.
   Granted £1 17s. 6d. (spent in clothing), October, 1910.

10. Ex-Private J. H. Served 8 years. Having through sickness and unemployment been compelled to dispose of his home.
    Granted £1, October, 1910.

11. Mrs. M., widow of Ex-Private M., in poor circumstances
    Granted £1, December, 1910.

12. Ex-Private T. Served 12 years. South African Campaign. Suffering from consumption. Married, and 1 child. In arrears with rent.
    Granted £1 (spent in rent and food), December, 1910.

13. Ex-Private S. S. Out of employment and without food. Has a delicate wife, and in arrears with rent.
    Granted £1 (spent in rent and food), December, 1910.

14. Ex-Private E. In bad health, owing to want of food. Unemployed for a considerable time.
    Granted £1 (spent in clothing and food), December, 1910.

15. Ex-Private A. Invalided with heart disease. Married, and 1 child. Cannot obtain employment on account of his disease. Has a permanent pension of 9d. *per diem*.
    Granted 10s., December, 1910.
    To receive a further grant of 30s. in January, 1911.

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16. Ex-Colour-Sergeant D. Served 15 years. Has been in the infirmary through sickness. Wife and 2 children.
Granted £1 (for Stock and Pedlar's Licence), December, 1910.

17. Ex-Private A. Unemployed, and away from home.
Granted 2s. (railway fare to carry him home), January, 1910.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

In presenting to the members and subscribers their Fourth Annual Report, the Committee have pleasure in announcing that the Association continues in a flourishing condition, both financially and in regard to its membership.

The hearty response to the " Appeal " and the very generous subscriptions from the members have considerably raised the credit of the funds, and the Committee hope to hand over to the Trustees at an early date for investment a sum of £500.

Fifty-four new members have been enrolled during the past year, some of whom are settled in our Colonies.

About forty cases have been dealt with by the Benevolent Committee, seventeen of which have been assisted. Some of those to whom help has been extended are suffering from consumption, and although the maximum grant for one year has been given in these cases, it is hoped that something further might be done to bring about a more permanent benefit.

The Committee are grateful for the many individual subscriptions received from members of the Benevolent Fund.

It is gratifying to know that one of the results of the Appeal has been that some employers of labour have graciously come forward with suggestions for obtaining work for men of the Regiment on leaving the Colours, and in some instances have offered to give preference to members of the Association when requiring workmen.

The Committee appeal to members for their co-operation and help in this matter by using their influence in trying to obtain employment for Old Comrades of the Regiment whom they know to be requiring work.

The Committee desire to express their thanks to the Regi-

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mental Paymaster and his staff at Lichfield for their help, to the proprietors of the *Military Mail* for kindly sending a representative to the Annual Meeting and Dinner, and afterwards publishing, free of charge, a very excellent account and photograph of the gathering; and to all others who have subscribed and aided in the furtherance of the Association in the past, and solicit their kindly support and sympathy in the future.

In conclusion, the Committee wish all members a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

ARTHUR EWIN, Lieut. and Q.M.,
Hon. Secretary.

THE ANNUAL MEETING

The Fourth Annual Meeting preceded the Dinner, and was held at the Drill Hall, Derby, on October 15th, 1910.

Colonel F. C. Shaw, commanding 2nd Battalion, occupied the Chair, and was supported by Major Leveson-Gower, commanding Depot, Captain Mortimore, Captain McGuire, Lieutenant and Quartermaster Ewin, the Hon. Secretary, Sergeant Pollard, Hon. Assistant Secretary, Sergeant-Majors Harwood, Skerritt, Quartermaster-Sergeants Read and Bedford, and forty-eight other members.

Minutes.—The minutes of the last Annual Meeting were read and confirmed.

Revision of Bye-Laws, etc.—The Chairman explained to the meeting the appeal (which appears in another part of the Report) which had been issued by the President, Lieutenant-General Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien, K.C.B., D.S.O., A.D.C., from the Dukes of Portland and Devonshire for funds on behalf of the Benevolent Fund, and the response up to date was £406 12s. 10d. Having now a large sum of money in the funds, it was necessary, he said, that the surplus should be invested by Trustees, who would have to be appointed.

Owing to the increased work of the Committee, it had been found that the existing administration and bye-laws were not suitable for present requirements.

The local Committee, under Major Leveson-Gower, had therefore drawn up a new scheme of Management Bye-Laws,

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etc., to which the President, Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien, had made minor amendments, and these were to be placed before the meeting.

The Bye-Laws were first dealt with, and it was resolved :—

(1) *Title.*—To stand as at present constituted.

(2) *Object.*—To add to present reading, " and to form and control a Benevolent Fund."

(3) *Membership.*—As at present constituted, with the following addition : " The Executive Committee are empowered to strike off the name of any member from the roll of members whose conduct is unbecoming and would bring discredit on the Association."

(4) *Subscriptions.*—As at present constituted.

Funds

(5) *General Fund.*—The Old Comrades' Association Fund, into which shall be paid all subscriptions to the Association.

This fund will be vested in the Executive Committee, with full powers to apply the same as they think fit in defraying such expenses as may be incurred in the management and in the Dinner.

Benevolent Fund.—The Old Comrades' Association Benevolent Fund, into which shall be paid :

(*a*) Subscriptions to the Association received over the amounts mentioned in Rule 5.

(*b*) Any grants voted by the General Meeting from the General Fund.

(*c*) Interest on sums invested on behalf of the Benevolent Fund.

(*d*) Any donations which may be given from time to time to the Benevolent Fund.

(6) *Investment.*—Whenever a considerable sum of money is to the credit of the Benevolent Fund, a General Meeting may decide that it be invested in the names of the Trustees.

(7) *Financial Year.*—The Financial Year shall be from January 1st to December 31st.

(8) *Meetings.*—As constituted.

(9) *Books.*—The Books of the Association shall be laid before the General Meeting for inspection.

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Committees

(10) *Executive.*—The Executive Committee shall assemble twice yearly, one of such meetings to be on the day of the Annual Dinner.

Sub-Committee.—The meeting of the Sub-Committee shall be at the discretion of the Chairman of such Committee as occasion arises.

Management

(11) *Duties of Executive Committee.*—The Executive Committee shall manage and control the business of the Association, and will delegate to the Sub-Committee power to deal with all cases for relief or assistance to a limit of £3 in any particular case. More than £3 will not be given without reference to the Executive Committee.

The Sub-Committee will render accounts quarterly to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will keep the Sub-Committee supplied with funds for the above purpose by grants limited to £10 at a time.

If funds run low the Executive Committee should further limit the spending powers of the Sub-Committee.

A discussion took place as to the amount of money to be limited to each case. Some members were of opinion that £5 should be the limit, others £3. It was finally resolved that £3 should be the limit.

Vacancies.—Vacancies in Executive and Sub-Committee should be filled by nomination at the Annual General Meeting, but the Committee are empowered to fill vacancies or add to their numbers, temporarily, pending approval by next General Meeting.

Committee.—Members of all Committees to retire annually, but to be eligible for re-election.

Quorum.—It was resolved that three members of a committee form a quorum.

(12) *Annual Report.*—An Annual Report to be furnished to each individual subscriber and to the Officers' and Sergeants' Messes, Reading-Rooms of the Line Battalions and Depot.

(13) *Amendments.*—As constituted.

(14) *Benevolent Branch.*—The object of this branch is to benefit old soldiers of the Regiment who are deserving and in

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needy circumstances, and, if funds permit, also widows and children. The way in which assistance is given must be left to a great extent to the Committees, according to the requirements of individual cases, and it is hoped that as funds increase it may be possible to assist under the following headings :—

1. To give immediate temporary assistance in all cases of real need.
2. To assist non-commissioned officers and men on leaving the Colours :
   - (*a*) To obtain employment.
   - (*b*) In the expense of moving to take up work in a new part of the United Kingdom.
   - (*c*) In emigrating to our Colonies, whether by donation or loan.
   - (*d*) With medical aid and weekly allowance in sickness.
   - (*e*) In meeting funeral expenses.
   - (*f*) In admittance to convalescent homes.
3. To provide cottage homes for aged pensioners of the Regiment.

A question was asked whether it was intended to benefit members only, or any old soldiers who had served in the Regiment, and a proposition was made that the old rule be adhered to, viz :

" That only members of the Association be assisted."

It was, however, finally resolved that any old soldier of the Regiment in necessitous circumstances may partake of its benefit.

(15) *Application for Assistance.*—All applications for assistance should be made to the Secretary of Sub-Committee, who shall cause enquiries to be made, and will afterwards submit the case to the Sub-Committee.

Executive Committee.—The following were elected to form the Executive Committee to govern and manage the affairs of the Association, as from January 1st, 1911 : *Chairman*, The Officer Commanding Depot ; *Members*, Quartermaster-Sergeants Skinner, Read, Fielding, Bedford, Private Milner ; *Honorary Secretary and Treasurer*, Lieutenant and Quartermaster A. Ewin, The Barracks, Newark.

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Benevolent Sub-Committee.—In the new scheme of administration placed before the meeting it was proposed that there be two sub-committees, one at Derby and one at Nottingham; but after some discussion Lieutenant and Quartermaster Ewin proposed that there be one sub-committee to administer Benevolent affairs, represented by members from Derby and Nottingham. Sergeant West seconded this resolution, and it was carried unanimously; and the following were elected: *Chairman,* Captain McGuire; *Members,* Sergeant-Major Skerritt, Sergeants Goode, Francis, Private Tyers; *Honorary Secretary,* Sergeant E. A. Pollard.

Benevolent Grant.—It was resolved that the sum of £70 be transferred from the General Fund to the Benevolent Fund.

The meeting accorded a hearty vote of thanks to Colonel Shaw for presiding.

Colonel Shaw thanked the members for the vote of thanks, and said he would always do what he could for the Association. The meeting was then adjourned.

Since the Annual Meeting Colonel Shaw and Lieut.-Colonel Didham have been asked, and have consented to become the Trustees of the Association.

THE FOURTH ANNUAL DINNER

The Drill Hall, Derby, presented an animated scene, as to the regimental marches, played by the Depot band under the conductorship of Sergeant-Drummer Bloomfield, the officers, preceded by Colonel F. C. Shaw, took their places at the tables, where there were already assembled about 170 members of the Association, amongst whom were included Crimean and Indian Mutiny Veterans of the Regiment: Sergeant William Beddo, who joined in 1846 and served in the Crimean Campaign, where he took part in the actions of Alma, Inkermann, Sebastopol, afterwards serving in the Indian Mutiny.

The other veterans present as guests were Private Eli Osborne, whose service included the Crimean and Mutiny Campaigns, and Private Taylor, who also served during the Mutiny.

The arrangements for the dinner were in the hands of

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Messrs. Ramsden and Co., caterers, Derby. While the dinner was in progress musical items were contributed by the band, and at the conclusion the " King " was given by the Chairman, and was responded to with musical honours.

A musical programme had been arranged by Q.M.-Sergt. Fielding, the first item of which, a song by Captain H. F. Watson, D.S.O., " The Trumpeter," was now given, and after a pianoforte solo by Q.M.-Sergt. Fielding, followed the toast, " The Old Comrades' Association." The Chairman, Colonel Shaw, in proposing this toast, said that he must apologise for being in the position he occupied. They all very much regretted the absence of their Colonel, Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien, and he proposed to tell him so on their behalf, when he wrote to him and gave him an account of the meeting. Everyone knew, as well as he did, that Sir Horace is a man who never spares himself, is a very hard-worked man, and after a long and hard season at Aldershot he wants a rest.

Colonel Shaw said he would do his best to fill his place, but he was not conceited enough to think he could fill it a half, quarter, or even one-twentieth as well as Sir Horace could. He continued by saying it had not been his good fortune to be present at the last two dinners, but he attended the meeting in Nottingham, at which the Association was formed three years ago, and he was glad that the benevolent scheme which was then in the minds of the promoters of the organisation was becoming an accomplished fact. The seed sown was bearing fruit, and the new year marked an epoch in the history of the Association. The idea had its inception in the ever-fertile brain of Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien, who was always striving to do what he could for the benefit of the Regiment. He it was who approached the two Lords-Lieutenant, and they entered into the spirit of the movement most heartily, giving the matter their personal attention and issuing an appeal for assistance from the two counties for deserving old soldiers who had performed their duty while doing honour to the district whence they sprang, and who from various causes had fallen upon evil times. The result was that at present there was something like £410 in the hands of the treasurers (to whom many thanks were due for the interest they had shown). The object of the Association was to promote a spirit of *esprit de corps*, and incidentally

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to keep the Regiment up to its strength in good, brave, sound, and efficient soldiers. It was not hard to get the men one did not want, but it was not always easy to obtain those who were most desirable. He was thankful to say, however, that generally the recruits were of the same old class—honest soldiers, good, sound, deep-chested Midlanders, who could be trusted to cover the last 200 yards in the attack. He was the oldest soldier now serving in the Regiment, and from his experience during the time he had been in command of the 2nd Battalion he knew where the shoe pinched, and how very difficult it was to raise the necessary number of men. He therefore appealed to old members to assist in procuring the 400 men of the right sort needed annually to keep the Regiment up to its standard. He had served twenty-nine years and had only a few more months to put in ; but he would always look back with pride and pleasure upon the fact that during the term of his command he had been concerned in the formation of the Association. There would have been some difficulty in starting it but for the help of Captain McGuire and Lieutenant Ewin, who had thrown their heart and soul into the work.

Colonel Shaw then read a telegram from General Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien : " Best wishes for successful evening and deeply regret absence." Also one from Sergeants' Mess 2nd Battalion : " Best wishes to all old comrades. Hope all will have a pleasant evening. God speed to one and all."

In responding Mr. Ewin first of all read letters of regret from officers and men of the Association who could not be present. Three were from old men in Chelsea Hospital, who were too feeble to attend. Mr. Ewin pointed out that with the £410 received in response to the appeal the Association was now worth about £550, and he observed that a particularly gratifying circumstance was the manner in which subscriptions came in from old friends who had very little to spare, but were only too willing to send their shillings for the benefit of the Association. During the past year seventeen applications for assistance were received and investigated. With one exception they had been cases genuinely in need of help, and the Committee had been able to set many of the men on their feet again. There were now no fewer than six ex-service associations in Notts alone, so that they could not

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but be gratified at the progress which their own was making. Lieutenant Ewin acknowledged the assistance which had been rendered by Captain Salt, Lieutenant Weeks, 8th Battalion, and Messrs. Higgins, West, and Read.

The toast of " The Regiment " was proposed in a few brief, appropriate words by Major Leveson-Gower, who remarked they all knew that their Regiment was the best in the service.

Q.M.-Sergt. Read, responding, said it was now over seven years since he left the 1st Battalion, and hardly a day passed without wishing himself back again. Q.M.-Sergt. Read admitted that he was, from the top of his head to the sole of his foot, " a Forester," and from first to last a 1st Battalion man. He never served in the 2nd Battalion, but at one time he must have known nearly everybody in it. He went on to refer to the Benevolent Fund. It was humiliating to have to admit that there are men who have served their country who, through no fault of their own, have sunk to the lowest depths of misery and want. But during the last seven years he had seen sufficient to satisfy himself that such cases are more numerous than a good many people were aware of. He appealed to all to use their best endeavours to assist the Benevolent Fund by getting those ex-Foresters who have not joined the Association to do so. During the last four years a good many have joined ; at the same time there are a great number who have not done so. He did not say " come to the dinner," the expense he knew was more than many could afford to pay ; but the annual subscription is only one shilling. He appealed to his comrades to think that this only meant two quarts less per year, and it enabled them to keep in touch with old friends of years gone by. As one of the rank and file he begged to thank, on their behalf, the Dukes of Portland and Devonshire for their kindly interest in the matter of the Benevolent Fund ; also General Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien for what he had done for the Association ; it was entirely due to his energy and anxiety to assist those who are so much in need of it, that the appeal had been issued. Thanks were due also to the Officer Commanding, officers, warrant officers, N.C. officers and men of the 1st Battalion for their gift last year of the sum of £50.

The last toast of the evening, " The Chairman," was pro-

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posed by Q.M.-Sergt. Skinner, who voiced the opinion of the members present when he said that in Colonel Shaw the "Sherwood Foresters" possessed one of the best colonels the Regiment ever had.

Colonel Shaw responded by expressing his best thanks for the compliment paid him.

Other vocal and instrumental items were contributed during the evening by Drummer Holland and others.

The almost entire absence of formality made the gathering an unusually enjoyable event; the toast list being commendably short, the evening was given over to the exchange of reminiscences and to general social intercourse.

NOTICES, ETC.

The Honorary Secretary would be pleased to be informed of the addresses of the undermentioned who served with D Company, 1st Battalion, in the S.A. Campaign, viz: 5580, Corporal J. Simpson; 4698, Private C. Maddison; and 5533, Private M. Marriott.

Will members please note that applications for relief from the Benevolent Fund should be addressed to: The Honorary Secretary, Benevolent Committee, 4 Hedley Villas, Beech Avenue, Nottingham?

Members are requested in the event of the death of a former member of the Regiment coming to their notice, to immediately advise the Honorary Secretary.

It is requested that members will notify to the Honorary Secretary any change of address, otherwise much inconvenience is caused and extra expense incurred in postage.

Subscriptions.—The annual subscriptions for 1910 have not yet been received from some members. Subscriptions for 1911 are now due and should be paid either through the bank or sent direct to the Honorary Secretary and Treasurer.

Annual Dinner.—The next Annual Dinner will be held at Nottingham on the fourth Saturday of October. Only members who have paid the annual subscription are eligible to attend the dinner on payment of 2s. 6d.

The Benevolent Committee would be grateful for any serviceable cast-off clothing that members may care to forward.

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GENERAL FUND

RECEIPTS	£	s.	d.
By Balance last Account	64	2	1½
By Annual Subscriptions and Donations from Members	38	12	6
By Officers 1st Battn.	5	0	0
By Officers 2nd Battn.	5	0	0
Regimental Institutions, 2nd Battn.	10	0	0
Institutions' Depot	3	3	0
Sergeants' Depot	5	0	0
Sale of Photographs	1	4	0
Interest	3	9	9
Total	135	11	4½

EXPENDITURE	£	s.	d.
To Photograph	0	11	0
To Frame for Photograph	0	4	6
To Expenses of Committee visiting Benevolent cases, attending Meetings, Funerals, etc.	4	15	4½
Printing Annual Report	11	10	0
Printing Menu Cards	2	10	6
Stationery and Books	1	9	0
Clerks, Lichfield	1	0	0
Two Directories of Notts & Derbyshire	1	10	9
Chequebook	0	2	6
Expense of Veterans attending dinner	0	4	0
Postage	6	15	8½
Telegrams and Cablegrams	0	15	0
Hire of Drill Hall	2	5	0
Advertising	0	10	6
Hire of Piano	0	12	6
Cartage of Band Instruments	0	2	6
To Dinner Fund for 20 Guests (15 Bandsmen, 2 Veterans, and 3 Pressmen)	2	10	0
Grant to Benevolent Fund	70	0	0
Wreaths for Funerals of old Comrades	2	6	0½
Balance Cr.	25	16	6
Total	135	11	4½

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DINNER FUND

RECEIPTS	£	s.	d.	EXPENDITURE	£	s.	d.
By Balance last Account	1	15	0	To Cost of 195 Dinners at 2s. 6d.	24	7	6
By Sale of Tickets	23	0	0	Balance Cr	4	0	0
By Allowance from Catering Company	1	0	0				
By 15 Bandsmen, 2 Veterans, and 3 Pressmen	2	10	0				
Due from one Member	0	2	6				
Total	28	7	6	Total	28	7	6

BENEVOLENT FUND

RECEIPTS	£	s.	d.	EXPENDITURE	£	s.	d.
By Balance last Account	30	14	0	To Grants to Comrades	27	19	6
By Subscription from 1st Battn.	50	0	0	Balance Cr.	157	3	0
By Subscription from Members	4	8	6				
By Subscription O.C. Depot	30	0	0				
By Grant from General Fund	70	0	0				
Total	185	2	6	Total	185	2	6

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APPEAL FUND

RECEIPTS	£	s.	d.	EXPENDITURE	£	s.	d.
By Subscriptions	426	10	10	To Cost of Envelopes	2	5	0
				To Cost of Carriage of Circulars	0	5	7
				To Postage	27	5	5
				To Advertising	11	5	0
				To Assistance in Clerical Work	0	15	0
				Balance Cr.	384	14	10
Total	426	10	10	Total	426	10	10

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BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS	£	s.	d.
By Balance at Union of London and Smith's Bank :—			
Current Account . . .	247	13	11
Deposit Account (at 3%) .	123	4	9
By Cash in hands of Honorary Secretary	0	13	2
Due from a Member for Dinner .	0	2	6
Due by Subscribers to Appeal Fund	200	0	0
Due by Sergeants 2nd Battn. Annual Subscription	5	0	0
Due by Sergeants 1st Battn. Annual Subscription	5	0	0
Due by 1st Battn. Annual Subscription to Benevolent Fund . .	50	0	0
Due by 1st Battn. Annual Subscription	10	0	0
Total	641	14	4

LIABILITIES	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Credit of General Fund .	45	16	6			
Credit of Benevolent Fund	207	3	0			
Credit of Dinner Fund .	4	0	0			
Credit of Appeal Fund .	384	14	10			
Actual Credit of the Association				641	14	4
Total				641	14	4

Audited and found correct this 20th day of January, 1911.

(Signed) W. SWINHOE PHELAN, Captain.

(Signed) A. HALLAM, ex-Colour-Sergeant.

Derby, 20th January, 1911.

(Signed) ARTHUR EWIN, Lieut. and Q.M.,
Hon. Secretary.

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XXI

"WHERE ARE THE BOYS OF THE OLD BRIGADE?"

ON behalf of those still serving I wish to extend to our Old Comrades now passed from the ranks the best of wishes. It is a pleasing duty to write about old comrades who are doing well in this time of great labour competition, and the writer finds from experience that the recognised "Good Soldier" is, on leaving the ranks, a "Good Civilian." Our regiment has for a long period been blessed with a class of hard-working, strong men, who can turn out on leaving the Colours to earn their living by hard work, and do not find great difficulty in obtaining it. It is a solid fact that the men who are not doing well in civil life are generally the men who have been closely connected with work under the Provost Sergeant.

Since writing the last year's contribution a great change has come about as regards the Permanent Staff of the Territorial Battalions; many of our old readers, especially those who have had the honour of serving on the old Volunteers staff with the rank of colour-sergeant, will be surprised to learn that the Army Council have decided to post non-commissioned officers of the rank of sergeant only from the home battalion to the vacancies as they occur, and for a term of duty only extending in the most for us more than five years. The result is, naturally, a serious block in the promotion of sergeants, and really means a decrease of twenty colour-sergeants' promotion in the two battalions; so that a sergeant, on being promoted to the rank of colour-sergeant, may expect to complete the whole of his service with his battalion. The change has already affected two vacancies which have occurred, as will be seen in the changes now shown below.

I wish that readers would kindly send me a line regarding the doings of any old comrades. I find that it is, under the present conditions, very difficult to obtain information for this contribution.

S. FIELDING, Q.M.-Sergt.

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3RD BATTALION CHANGES

Colour-Sergeant Housley discharged to pension.

Sergeant Blackwell promoted colour-sergeant.

Sergeant Hannon posted, *vice* Blackwell promoted. Served in South Africa with the M.I. from 2nd Battalion. Served with the 1st Battalion in Hong Kong, Straits Settlements, and India.

Sergeant Halliday discharged to pension.

Sergeant Platts posted, *vice* Halliday. Served in 2nd Battalion as signalling sergeant.

4TH BATTALION CHANGES

Sergeant Crowson from 1st Battalion in India, *vice* Colour-Sergeant Cobb promoted.

5TH BATTALION

There are no changes since last edition of the Regimental Annual.

6TH BATTALION CHANGES

Colour-Sergeant Cocker discharged to pension.

Sergeant Turner from 2nd Battalion posted for tour of duty under the new Regulations.

7TH BATTALION

No changes.

8TH BATTALION CHANGES

Sergeant-Major Murphy discharged to pension.

Sergeant Raynor from 2nd Battalion posted for a tour of duty under the new Regulations. Sergeant Raynor served as a sergeant in the 1st Battalion in Hong Kong, Straits Settlements, and India.

PENSIONERS

Quartermaster-Sergeant Drake, formerly Quartermaster-Sergeant of 3rd Battalion, is employed in charge of the quartermaster's stores of the 6th Battalion at Chesterfield.

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Colour-Sergeant Hunt. Served with 2nd Battalion in Egypt and Sikkim. Will be remembered as a drummer, and was No. 5 in the first of the Territorial Numbers in 1881. Is a club steward at Underwood, in Nottinghamshire.

Colour-Sergeant Jones, who was a sergeant in the 1st Battalion, and colour-sergeant on 3rd Battalion Staff, is club steward at Sutton-in-Ashfield.

Colour-Sergeant Musson, who served with the 1st Battalion in South Africa, is a club steward at Mansfield.

Colour-Sergeant Parker, who served with the 1st Battalion in South Africa, is an institute steward at the firm of Rolls, Royce, at Derby.

Band-Sergeant Evans served with the 1st Battalion in South Africa, afterwards canteen steward, is bandmaster in the Indian Army to the 46th Punjabis.

Quartermaster-Sergeant Read, well-known as Pioneer-Sergeant in 1st Battalion, is a School Board officer at Burton-on-Trent.

Colour-Sergeant Glover served with 2nd Battalion in Egypt, Sikkim, and Tirah, looks just as rosy as ever, and is wearing the uniform of the Barrack Department at Lichfield.

Colour-Sergeant Keeling, who was awarded the D.C. Medal for gallantry in the Tirah Campaign, and was wounded at Dargai, is a timekeeper in the works of Fletcher and Co., Derby.

Colour-Sergeant Hallam, colour-sergeant in 2nd Battalion, a well-known battalion cricketer. Was with 2nd Battalion in Tirah. Is employed as a civilian subordinate in the Mobilisation Stores at the Depot.

Colour-Sergeant Housley, colour-sergeant in 3rd Battalion, was in charge of the coffee-shop of 2nd Battalion, served in Tirah. Jeweller's messenger in Nottingham.

Sergeant Halliday, sergeant in 2nd Battalion, and pay sergeant of 3rd Battalion, was present in Tirah. Was Officers' Mess Sergeant of 3rd Battalion for several years. Is employed as a timekeeper at Messrs. Eastwood and Swingler's Iron Works, Derby.

Sergeant Winn, sergeant in 1st and 2nd Battalions, served in South Africa. Will be remembered as cook sergeant of 2nd Battalion. Employed in ironworks at Rotherham.

Sergeant Payne, who was wounded in South Africa whilst

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serving with the 1st Battalion M.I., is employed as warehouseman in Derby, and receives a wound pension.

Corporal Bedford, who was invalided from 1st Battalion in South Africa, with enteric fever, a brother of Quartermaster-Sergeant Bedford, is an insurance agent at Long Eaton. Is a permanent pensioner.

Corporal Roper, who was wounded at Diamond Hill, is in possession of a wound pension, and employed at the Midland Railway Works, Derby.

Private Howe, who was wounded in the jaw at Wonderheuvel with 1st Battalion, has recently had his case brought to notice by Major P. Leveson-Gower, with the result that he has received a wound pension. His wound has had a very ill effect on his health, and the pension is really well deserved. He is employed at the Carriage Works at Derby.

Sergeant Donovan, who served with the 2nd Battalion in Egypt, and was for many years colour-sergeant on the P.S., 4th Battalion, is still very hale and hearty. He is employed at Ley's Foundry, Derby.

Sergeant Heapy. Served with 2nd Battalion in Egypt, Sikkim, and with the 1st Battalion in South Africa. Has a good appointment in the Motor Works of Messrs. Rolls, Royce, Derby.

Quartermaster-Sergeant Plant, formerly colour-sergeant of C Company, 1st Battalion, and Depot quartermaster-sergeant, is employed by the Board of Guardians under Captain F. Casswell, at Manchester. His brother, who served for seven years, and left the 1st Battalion as a sergeant, is a warrant officer on the Derby Police Force.

Drummer Bentley, a drummer in the 1st Battalion and Depot Staff, is in business as a photographer in Derby.

Lance-Corporal Dalton, who served with the 2nd Battalion in Tirah and 1st Battalion in South Africa, is employed as caretaker of the Recruiting Office at Nottingham.

Colour-Sergeant Tyrer was many years in the band of 1st Battalion, colour-sergeant at the Depot, and colour-sergeant instructor on the Permanent Staff; is employed as a clerk in the Midland Railway offices.

Private Mooney will be remembered as a tailor in the 1st Battalion and Depot; is in business as a tailor and draper in Derby.

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Sergeant Yenn, a sergeant in 1st and 2nd Battalions and Permanent Staff 4th Battalion, is an insurance agent in Derby.

Sergeant Harvey, a sergeant in 1st Battalion and Permanent Staff 4th Battalion, is employed in the offices of the Midland Railway Company.

Private King, who served the whole of his twenty-three years with the 1st Battalion and at the Depot, is employed on a farm at Swarkestone.

Quartermaster-Sergeant T. Griffin, who was in Egypt with the 2nd Battalion, and with the 1st in South Africa, has lately returned to India with his family, and is holding a good appointment as manager of the club at Bareilly.

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XXII

OBITUARY OF THE PAST YEAR

LIST OF DEATHS WHICH HAVE OCCURRED DURING THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1910, OF PENSIONERS, RE-SERVISTS, AND SERVING SOLDIERS OF THE SHERWOOD FORESTERS, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND DERBYSHIRE REGIMENT.

SERVING SOLDIERS

1st Battn.	No.	10327	Private	W. Brown	28. 1.10
,,	,,	5304	Sergeant	R. Peacock	28. 3.10
,,	,,	10261	Sergeant	Goodey	17. 4.10
,,	,,	9755	Private	W. Millward	25. 6.10
2nd Battn.	,,	9959	,,	H. Buxton	28.11.10
,,	,,	5596	,,	G. Deeming	17.12.10
Army Res.	,,	9421	,,	T. Webster	27. 5.10
,,	,,	9403	,,	H. Morris	17.10.10
,,	,,	8772	,,	W. H. Spotswood	18.11.10

PENSIONERS

45th Foot	No.	1405	Private	F. Lewis	9. 1.10
,,	,,	1788	,,	M. McNamara	4. 2.10
,,	,,	2893	,,	J. McGrath	4. 3.10
,,	,,	179	,,	T. H. Ormerod	30. 1.10
,,	,,	1308	,,	W. Brown	8. 4.10
,,	,,	2851	Colour.-Sergt.	T. Murphy	3. 4.10
,,	,,	1707	Private	E. Ward	1. 5.10
,,	,,	725	,,	A. Holmes	29. 5.10
,,	,,	1676	,,	M. Quinn	9. 5.10
,,	,,	12	,,	E. Jackson	5.12.10
95th Foot	,,	3411	,,	J. McCord	26. 1.10
,,	,,	613	,,	T. Haley	3. 2.10
,,	,,	1479	,,	H. Hill	21. 3.10

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95th Foot	No.	3900	Sergeant H. King	16. 2.10
,,	,,	1100	Private D. Crowley	7. 4.10
,,	,,	321	Corporal R. Platt	8. 8.10
,,	,,	2382	Private P. Ward	18. 8.10
,,	,,	218	,, W. Day	6.10.10
,,	,,	240	,, W. Herrin	14.10.10
,,	,,	3640	,, J. Meakin	18.11.10
1st Battn.	,,	1817	,, D. O'Connell	18. 1.10
,,	,,	5020	,, G. Davidson	30. 3.10
,,	,,	397	,, W. Waters	23. 3.10
,,	,,	2673	,, A. Sheffield	24. 4.10
,,	,,	2889	Lance-Sergt. E. Rowell	12. 6.10
,,	,,	1627	Colour-Sergt. B. Coward	21. 7.10
,,	,,	1072	,, G. Ayres	9.12.10
2nd Battn.	,,	409	,, J. Hodgkinson	11. 4.10
,,	,,	702	,, T. Kelham	28. 7.10
,,	,,	689	Private W. Burgess	20.10.10
,,	,,	6463	,, W. Bradbeer	1.12.10
3rd Battn.	,,	144	Colour-Sergt. J. McCarlen	17. 4.10
4th Battn.	,,	1086	,, W. Small	1. 4.10
,,	,,	5100	Sergeant J. H. Baker	26. 4.10
Notts & Derby Regiment	,,	3950	Private M. Caffery	10.11.10
,,			,, Hickling	13.11.10
,,			Lance-Corporal Pepper	29.12.10
,,			Private J. P. Whittaker	5.10

News has also been received of the death of Armourer John Carpenter, who was for many years the armourer of the Depot Royal Marines. He served with the 95th in the Crimea, and was present at the battles of the Alma, of Inkermann, and at the siege of Sebastopol. He also served in the Central Indian Campaign, under Sir Hugh Rose. He was in possession of the Crimean medal with three clasps, the Turkish medal, the medal for the Indian Mutiny, and the medal for long service and good conduct. He was armourer sergeant of the 95th during both campaigns, and was one of the *eighty-nine* officers and men of the 95th Regiment who served uninterruptedly throughout the Crimean War.

Ex-Colour-Sergeant H. King, who, after completing 21 years in the 95th Regiment, served for 21 years on the Perma-

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nent Staff of the Yorkshire Regiment. Colour-Sergeant King was in possession of the Indian Mutiny Medal, Long Service and Meritorious Service Medals. He was accorded a military funeral at Beverley by the Depot Yorkshire Regiment, and a representative of our Association was also present.

No. 3640, Private John Meakin, enlisted in the 95th Foot March 10th, 1855, discharged as "medically unfit" June 8th, 1858, and granted a pension of 6d. *per diem*, which was increased to 1s. in 1906. He saw service in the Crimea. At one time he was known as the champion sprinter of the world, going under the nickname of "Baggy" Meakin. He was accorded a military funeral by the 8th Battalion, and was buried at Carlton on November 22nd, 1910.

In connection with the death of Sergeant E. Rowell, a representative was sent by the 2nd Battalion to the funeral, and the whole expenses of the funeral were borne by the same battalion.

In the death of Private J. P. Whittaker the O. C. Association has suffered the loss of a member of the Committee who rendered valuable assistance, and always showed a great interest in the affairs of the Association.

Private Whittaker will be remembered as having contributed so largely and ably musical items to the programme at former dinners.

Whenever possible the Association has been represented at the funerals of old comrades.

NOTICE

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